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# COMFORT

THE KEY TO A MILLION AND A QUARTER HOMES

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2. All contributions must have the number of words they contain plainly noted thereon in addition to the writer's full name and address with name de plume if desired; must be written on one side of the paper only, enclosed in the same envelope as the letter and remittance for new subscriptions, and addressed to EDITOR NUTSHELL STORY CLUB care of COMFORT, AUGUSTA, MAINE.

3. All stories must be strictly original with the contributors, and must not have appeared in print before. Competitors may write upon any subject, whether based upon fact, fancy or fiction—of adventure, love, war, peace, of city or country life, or of experiences on land or sea—but no story must contain more than 2,000 or less than 1,000 words.

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## PRIZE WINNERS FOR JUNE.

C. E. Barns, First Prize.

James Riley, Second Prize.

Rupe Hamby, Third Prize.

Narah E. Gannett, Fourth Prize.

M. E. Thrasher, Fifth Prize.

## The One Night's Madness of Dr. Florell.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY C. E. BARNES.

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TOP, wait! Don't pour the ether yet, Doctor, I beg of you. I have something to say to you. It is most important. Stop—listen!"

Weirdly the straining voice rang through the clear whiteness of the operating room. The two white capped nurses turned quickly with glances of sudden question upon their usually imperturbable faces. The doctor replaced the glass stopper in the big blue bottle.

"Step closer, Doctor," pleaded the panting voice between throbs of agony. "I will promise not to occupy your time but a moment—"

"But, my dear sir, it is not my time but your own, that is so precious."

"Nonsense! I've got all eternity before me. I've cashed in my last stack, Doctor—I know it, I feel it! You need not smile to mask your convictions with kindly encouragement. I'm face to face with one adversary at last where a bluff won't go. But, see here. Before you begin work let me just speak a word or two in secret, alone. Ladies, this is the last request I shall ever make of you in the flesh. Will you do me the kindness?"

The nurses looked at the doctor, saw his sign of approval and left the room. The door closed softly and the doctor stepped closer with some energy.

"Oh, you need not tell me that time is valuable," continued the patient. "I know it; but I think that when a man gets here, Dr. Florell, he may at least dedicate a few moments of a fading existence to one who has been so kind to him." He gave the young practitioner a grateful look. "In the first place, my name is not 'Hammond', as the hospital's blotter reads, and I am not a 'financier'. My name is Parkins, sir, and by profession I am a gambler." He paused to note the expression change in the listener's countenance. "Of course I have not a sou to reward you for all this kindness to me during these three weeks, ever since I was picked up unconscious in Madison Square and brought up here in the auto-ambulance. You see, the last homeward ocean trip did not net me much more than the passage money. Either the captain spotted me and let my game be known through the smoking-room, or else everybody came back from Paris broke. But the only four games I got into were mere tuppenny bits—" He stopped, for the pain racked him bitterly.

"My dear sir," admonished the young doctor with some pity in his professional insistence, "you are not growing stronger with this delay and effort. I can pull you through all right if you will only—"

"Thanks!" interrupted the patient with a laugh of satanic bravado which showed him at least the physical hero. "You can't perform miracles, Doctor, and that is why I want to tell you something. Now, as I said, I leave nothing behind by which to compensate—"

"Why, man, I am a salaried officer of this city institution. I expect nothing—"

"That's just why I insist upon giving it to you. Now, I doubt whether you will ever be placed in that position where you will be compelled to use it, but I am going to tell you a simple secret about any game of cards that has netted me from ten thousand to fifty thousand dollars a year, and allowed me to live like a prince of the blood in any quarter of the globe I chose, and which may help you out of a tight hole some day—"

"I assure you, sir," rejoined the doctor with some severity in the rebuff, "I rarely touch cards, and then only with friends for the mere social pastime, and above all, while I possess my present modicum of good sense, not to mention honor, sir, I should decline to win by any secret which may have netted you a devil's ransom. Let your secret die with you—or, rather—let me proceed to prove that I can save your life that you may turn to a profession better adapted to one of your talents."

"Not so brilliantly, my friend. You have not traveled as much as I or you would know that there comes a crisis now and then in a man's life when he will sacrifice a wee bit of his 'good sense' and even somewhat of his cherished 'honor,' sir, if thereby he may be saved from utter ruin and no one the wiser. Heaven grant that you may never be placed in that predicament; but if you are, here is your salvation, and once saved you may present as many diamond necklaces to the Jerusalem shrine of the Virgin as the Russian princes do every time they 'remove' an obstructing heir or a too-complaining peasant. Will you bend closer? It will take me but just one moment and it may save you from some Waterloo—"

"Will you be short and to the point?" asked the practitioner, without knowing that he was being led into the mazes of dangerous inquisitiveness by the soft, melting plea of the man on the brink of the eternal. Then he bent low over the still white face all seams and scars like a parchment map of a battle-field, listening like one hypnotized, unable to drag himself from the ensnaring confessions which seemed to rack the soul of the giver as a miser on his death bed reluctantly parts with his beloved treasure. When the fine young face of the scientist lifted it was flushed, and a guilty sense contained him without his knowing why. Then with a few kindly syllables he bade the patient compose himself for the ordeal, and summoned the nurses. Twenty minutes later two orderlies were carrying a motionless figure on a stretcher to the dead-room, and Doctor Florell, the most promising surgeon on the whole metropolitan staff, was wandering through the walled garden back of the institution, like a man crushed in between two opposing forces; the surgical problem that had defeated him, and the gambler's secret that had won him, and both in spite of his entire rallying powers of mind and morals. But alas, it was the former that soon passed away and it was the latter that remained to haunt and torture him.

Nor did the haunting lessen with the passing of the hours. A thousand times he wished that his surgical skill might enable him to trepan the skull of the white shape in the hospital dead-room and thrust back the secret that the gambler had given him. And the thought that this same little secret had netted its discoverer the neat though ill-gotten average of thirty thousand dollars a year for half a lifetime, while he a battler against abstruse adversaries in medical science was not yet sure of as many hundreds—this thought did not contribute to his mental composure. Matters drew to an unexpected climax when, on crossing Madison Square on his way to the west side to his favorite Bohemian haunt to dine, he ran plump into Paisley—Paisley of uptown brokerage fame, wit, orator and budding politician.

"What! Not going to the Civic League dinner tonight?" said Paisley, throwing back his greatcoat and exposing an expanse of whiteness, "and you a city official too?"

"I may be a city official, Dan, but I am not in politics. I think that politics and such humanitarian things as hospitals should be kept well apart."

"But that's no reason why you should not be present at the Club dinner. It will be well worth while—the best of speakers and a four-dollar-a-plate spread. Can you resist that? Come; I'll march over to your chambers with you and hustle you into broadcloth. I want you to hear my speech. Why did we come from the same Ohio county save for the sole advantage of glorying in each other's glory—eh?"

"I have always been more than glad of your success, Dan," said the doctor, urged along against his will but secretly pleased to find such congenial company at a moment when he was the most oppressed. And that was the beginning of it. Within an hour Daniel Paisley and Doctor Thomas Florell were side by side at the damask of the Civic League, the waiters busy about them, a Babel of tongues and popping of champagne corks threatening to rain down the decorations from cornice and chandelier. The gambler and his accursed secret was forgotten.

But after a number of celebrities had been brilliant of wit and wisdom and Paisley had distinguished himself, making proud his comrade of years, the diners repaired to the various

rooms of the clubhouse, and without knowing how he was urged thither, Doctor Florell found himself in the card room on the top floor—a sort of pit of Inferno, thick with tobacco smoke and noisy with the clatter of chips on bare mahogany. A diabolical madness came into the young practitioner's heart. In a patient he would have described it as acute mania. In himself he let it go without analysis. Without knowing that he was doing something he would regret for the remainder of his days, Doctor Florell discovered himself at the furthestmost round table, Paisley opposite, two politicians on either side, a fifty-dollar rampart of chips before him, and flushed face and parched lips that sought more often than discreet the cooling refection of icy wine sparkling at his elbow. He was playing the dead gambler's game almost by the force of the unseen spirit at his side reading the cards over his shoulder and dictating the play after the manner of his well-trained rascality. "At least," thought he, "as a psychological experiment it is worth fifty dollars to me to study myself under these excitements, and then I'll ease my conscience by giving the spoil to charity."

And so the play ran. So deeply absorbed and contained by the marvellous workings of the gambler's secret system was the doctor that he did not notice he had won a thousand dollars within an hour, the two politicians were scarlet with rage in defeat, and Paisley very white, with eyes glaring like a hyena driven into a corner with hot irons. Then one politician threw down his cards in disgust, another coming to fill his place, and after another half hour's play, during which the now thoroughly maddened doctor took in another six hundred dollars, Paisley excused himself, promising to return. He was gone some time, but so terribly interesting was the play that the winner scarcely noted his absence. Once or twice the doctor glanced into his friend's face, noting how set and drawn it was in its desperation, but his success blinded the winner to every human sense of pity or consideration. For the time he was Play incarnate—wrapt, enthralled, pilloried with the passion that for the first time stole into his nature and utterly transformed it. Then after losing a large sum, Paisley again excused himself.

This time he was gone for quite an hour, but when he returned, he entered the play with apparently unlimited means and a resolve to do or die. If the young doctor had come out of his terrible trance long enough to see himself and others as he would in ordinary life, he might have cried, "Halt!" and fought down this lust for money—more money, ill-gotten, stolen, blood-stained money that scorched his sensitive soul with a new and terrible passion. But he was blind with triumph, maddened with the possession of such a colossal sum of the root of all evil, and heard nothing but the ring of gold and felt only the demon within him. Then there came a climax.

Four times the seats of the politicians, all expert men at the cards, were filled, and away they went in defeat. It was about three o'clock in the morning when Paisley arose after the turn of a fatal card, placed his hands against his temples, uttered a low moan and turned about. The doctor heard that little cry, and it went to his heart like cold steel. Excusing himself, he arose abruptly and in a sort of delirium of shame and resolve, followed the tottering figure as it moved through the smoke like a lost soul through the sulphurous realms of hell, on toward the door and thence through the deserted corridor to the cloakroom. There, unknowing that he was followed, the young broker and wit, utterly abandoned and already more than half insane with defeat, hurried over the threshold, closing and locking the door behind him.

"My God!" murmured the doctor. "This will never do. He contemplates something desperate. I must get at him some way—" He stood still, trying to rally himself to the breach when he remembered another entrance into the cloakroom, and through corridor and several chambers he hurried, haggard and distraught, dashing into the apartment just in time to see a tottering figure standing before the mirror, his white face gleaming like drenched ivory, a revolver in his right hand, the muzzle at his temple.

With what marvellous rapidity does the human mind work in such appalling crises as these! Doctor Florell did not shriek out and alarm the house, neither had he the time to rush through the masses of hats and coats in helter-skelter confusion everywhere and lay violent hands upon the madman ere the deed was done. He simply reached down and seized two of the nearest silk hats and flung them both with all his strength straight at the dishevelled and rigidly poised head before the glass. One hat went wide of the mark, the other struck the clenched hand enough to turn the muzzle from its fatal mark just as the revolver exploded, making an ugly scalp wound. Paisley turned instantly, falling back against the mirror, steadying himself there, staring at his apprehender like one gone stark mad on the moment, blood trickling down his colorless cheek and over his scarcely paler shirtfront.

The doctor had closed and locked the door, and fortunately the revelry of the clubmen afar drowned to them the noise of the shot, and

this part of the house was quite deserted. "in the name of heaven!" moaned the life-saver as he advanced upon the trembling figure, "what does this mean?" He drew his handkerchief and with a practiced twist bound up the flesh wound, wiping the blood from face and shirt-front as the stiff shape stood there like a pillar of ice.

"Mean?" echoed Paisley, in the voice of the grave, "it means that I am ruined—disgraced—lost." He suffered the kindly ministrations without scarcely noticing them. "First I lost nine hundred dollars—all my savings for my wedding trip next month with the sweetest woman on God's earth." He paused, then plunged on the thread of the abandon of a man on the rack. "Then I went away and returned with a thousand dollars more. Do you know where I got them? I stole my mother's marriage jewels and pawned them." A frightful silence ensued. The doctor fell back with a gasp. The confessing one was not yet done, however. "I lost and went away again, returning with three thousand dollars, for I felt sure that I should retrieve all I had lost—I could not see how a man like you so ignorant of cards should continually defeat me who, alas, has given them too much study. Well, do you know where I got that three thousand dollars? I went to the office of my employer, got the watchman to let me in on a plausible pretext, went to the safe and took the money—the firm's money. Behold me then! I am a thief, a desecrator, a defaulter—"

"Stop, stop!" It was a mad cry that broke from the listener's blue lips, and quite for the first time during this halting confession the broker faced his friend. The countenance of the usually calm practitioner was frightful to behold. Even Paisley shuddered, for he saw there a grief even more terrible than his own if such could be. "Not another word, Paisley. You did not steal that money, my boy. It was I who stole it. You are not the desecrator of your mother's treasury—you are not the scoundrel—it is I. Listen! Listen! Today—today—or was it yesterday—God! I am losing my mind—today—but let that pass. You are not all guiltless, nor am I all guilty. There is another—he is dead—and back of him the great spirit of Evil that steals into men's hearts when they know not—" The would-be suicide in a state of stupefaction had slipped into an armchair and lay like dead. "Paisley, Paisley!" resumed the doctor. "A moment more and I

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should have been a murderer. As it is my lad, I thank God for salvation and a great lesson. I have the money here—we shall return every penny before the loss is discovered. Take my hand comrade. Let us together swear before the Almighty and allwise ruler of our destinies that we will never touch another card nor drink another drop of the sparkling madness so long as we shall live. Shall we swear it—you and I—ere together?"

Paisley struggled up like a drowning man dragged from the roaring torrent. The two men clutched each other there, reading their inmost souls in each other's eyes. "I swear, I swear!" he moaned out like a death-rattle in the agony of his regeneration.

"And I too, Paisley, and I too. Amen, and amen! Come; let us get out of here before we are discovered. Pull yourself together—quick!"

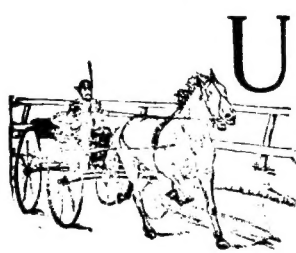
The next morning Doctor Florell wandered down to the dead-room of the great hospital and stood in meditation beside the white figure on the slab. An orderly passed near. "Shall we take that body to the Morgue or to the college?" he asked in tones of wooden bluntness.

"Neither," said the doctor. "Call an undertaker. This man shall have no pauper burial." Then as the orderly moved away, addressing the inanimate clod as if even now it had ears to hear, "Stranger, I have six hundred dollars left of your accursed spoil for charity. I shall give you a decent burial, not because charity in this case begot at home, you scoundrel, but because deep down in my heart I am grateful for the most terrible and lasting lesson of my life."

### Uncle Zeke's Boston Mare.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY JAMES RILEY.

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In his boots than he did that night after he came home—going up to the house after putting in the barn the Boston mare.

"I got the hoss now Rhody," he said, speaking to aunt that night in the kitchen, all of us sitting around the room. "I got the hoss now that will take us down to Rev. Mr. Little's church to the Green Sundays a flyin'. The sermon next Sunday may be kind o' slow—be little fire, lightnin' an' eternal punishment in it, but there's goin' to be a good deal o' arenestness in our gittin' thar!"

He was so "tickled," to use his own expression, that he lay awake all night—worked up with the pleasure of his success, and in the morning when I looked out of my chamber window, there he was—the Boston mare hitched into one of the gigs and going up and down the road, the animal stretching it off at her level best. Overcome with excitement he could hardly eat any breakfast, and fairly whistled in peeling a potato.

"I golly," he said, "I'm goin' to Bridgton Cattle Show today an' enter the trot for the fust premium. Enter my Boston mare! An' she'll git it—I know she will! Beat anything in Phillips County! 'R else I miss my guess! I'll show em' what Zeke Thrasher ken do behind a hoss!"

Now Uncle Zeke never lied in any one particular, excepting in a horse trade, and here, if he was trading with a "feller that thought he knew it all," as he used to say, he would, if he could, show the "feller," that he knew a little something. In such cases his talk and promise record was always somewhat winding. The "Toss up o' judgment," as he used to say, "where heads I win, an' tails, you, the gull lost," was particularly alluring pastime to Uncle Zeke. For human nature like, and Yankee like in particular, he did want to come out ahead of anything he went into. On the other hand, as he used to say, "If anybody comes to me an' says, 'Here Zeke Thrasher, you git me a hoss! I don't know anything 'bout a hoss! You know what I want! One'll road it an' work on the farm—an' 'fore cattle, I put it all in your hands!' Well if anybody comes an' says that, I git 'em an' honest hoss."

And folks did say, those who went to him in that way, that they found they had from him when the horse was tried, about such an animal as they wanted at a fair price. But with the skins, he was a skinner.

"Wish he'd be ther'," I heard him say to himself while stepping into the gig, "make out they were sisters, like enough."

I ventured to suggest that the Boston mare looked very much like our gray "colt," as we called her. She was just the same size, color and age, and it would be a good plan to drive them down as a span.

"Span!" sneered Uncle Zeke. "Span! Humph! Guess you know a good deal about it boy!

Span! It takes a good deal besides gray hairs an' the same size bones under hoss flesh to make a span sir! Know it? It takes G-I-S-M gism! You put 'em both together an' see."

After breakfast I did go down to the pasture and led up our young gray mare, to find uncle was right. That although they did look just alike in every particular, still on the whole, when you looked at the two together, they were as different as life is to death.

Uncle was struck however with their similarity, and as he was getting into the gig said, "If I draw the fust premium, an' I know I shall, I don't see why the fast gray can't sell the slow gray. You hitch her into the tother gig an' git down ther' 'bout quarter or half after 'leven. Drive round to the main entrance—by the grand stand. I want to git rid o' that dum dumpish thing some how or other."

He stopped when he drove out into the road and reminded me again. "Drive down 'bout quarter er half past 'leven John an' wait at the back entrance. Wait ther' till I come."

He would have said more, but Arad Dumfy just then drove along and they both "skited" down the road, Uncle Zeke giving Arad his dust and shouting, "How does she look from behind Arad?"

It was three miles to Bridgton Cattle Show and I should like to have seen the picture uncle left on the farmers' minds of Phillips County as he wheeled by them one after the other, Arad Dumfy the rear of the long line of wonder.

"Ther's Zeke Thrasher," said Hiram Handley to Abial Brown, seeing uncle driving around the track, "now 'Bial he ain't here for nothin'! Not fer nothin' 'Bial! What's he got thar? By G. Whitaker, don't that hoss step? Looks to me zif ther' was a hull hoss in them shafts Bial."

Abial Brown agreed with Hiram Handley and the thousands of others on the grand stand as well as those across on the other side of the fence, that Zeke Thrasher was holding in with the ribbons a marvel of equine grace and restrained fire.

"Haint no Boston mare, an' nothin' o' the kind," snarled out Jason Tupper, and Uncle Zeke heard it—stopped before the judge's stand at the time and speaking to the latter. "He's entered her's the Boston mare! But it's the daughter o' the hoss I sold him six years ago. Haint good fer nothin'! Says he bought her to an auction in Boston. Humph! Lies! Needn't be 'fraid of her!"

Uncle drove along some ways and turned—all eyes on him—for no matter where the animal came from she was to be admired. He passed the grand stand—holding in the mare to an easy movement just beyond a fast walk, a little man with skin drawn tight over a peaked face, that was helped out and accentuated with a chin whisker of fifty or more blazing red hairs.

"I don't know," said Brown to Tupper as the latter drove up and stopped, "I don't know Jason! That hoss is all thar—even if she did come as you say, from the mare you stuck on him six year ago. Lord! if she beats here to-day Pat Hegerty, that still owns the old one 'll make a mint raisin' colts."

"Haint good fer nothin'! Haint good fer nothin'! Break all up 'fore she gits half round the track the first time," returned Tupper.

"Don't know," said Brown, as both looked to where Uncle Zeke was before the starting stand—looking up and talking with the judge. "Don't know 'bout that. When that little goatie o' Zeke Thrasher's is turned up in that fashion, the way 'tis now as he's talkin' with the committee, it looks to me zif 'twas sayin' with him, 'Zeke Thrasher's got the only piece o' buttered bread ther' is on the track this day an' he ain't goin' to drop it nuther.'"

The two smiled, and as Tupper was driving away from the man on the other side of the rail, Uncle Zeke stepped his mare in a grand anticipatory motion along the track. He noticed Tupper's satisfied grin and Brown's smile and said to himself, "I'll give him enough on't!"

It was bad enough for uncle to get fleeced six years previous by Jason Tupper, who sold him a gray mare for a high price, that had blind staggers, but now to know—as he caught again some words of Tupper's that his Boston mare was being traduced, made the short hairs under his little white slouched hat almost stand on end. But he held himself in, and the mare too, until at last, after three attempts, the start was made.

"It's all right! It's all right!" shouted Uncle Zeke, passing the starting-point away behind the other four on the track—"All right!" and he was going round the track, closing in the distance and going by the next in the rear as he shouted.

Orrin Chase led out with Jason Tupper next and for some time it was between the two, but just as Tupper had passed Chase, he found himself neck and neck with a little gray mare that was carrying along a small red chin whisker, that under a white slouched hat was pointed toward business as the words came, "It's all right! Daughter o' the old mare! All right!"

And so round and round they went, uncle gradually leading and giving more and more room for the eyes of the spectators on the grand stand in which to roam between him and Jason Tupper, the next behind. In fact it was hardly a trot—Uncle Zeke coming in at each of the three heats farther and farther ahead, until at

last, on the third, he drove leisurely back, "To see what had become of Jason and the rest," as he jokingly said to the committee above.

"Want to swap hosses?" asked Uncle Zeke, after the time was announced, and he was adjudged the winner of the purse of a hundred dollars, "want to swap with me, Jason?"

All the county was on the grand stand or across the track fronting it and waiting for the answer. Jason looked admiringly at the horse, and so did Orrin Chase.

"Pooty good trade ye made on me after all," said Jason, stepping from his gig. "Yes, gentlemen, I sold him the mother o' that mare," and he sleeked her down the back as he spoke. "Good hoss! Good hoss! Ain't ye pooty well satisfied now, Mr. Thrasher?"

"Yaas," said Uncle Zeke, "kind o' satisfied. None of us 's ever quite satisfied." And then he said to himself, holding his lips together with an effort, "Ye darn insultin' cuss! Think I lie, do ye?"

"Want to sell the hoss?" asked Jason.

"Yees, I'll sell the mare! I don't want so fast a hoss. What'll ye give?"

Jason Tupper's offer of three hundred dollars only brought a sneer on Uncle Zeke's face. If he was to sell the Boston mare he was going to get what she was worth he thought, but at last when Jason raised a hundred, uncle began to think that his taxes were due, as well as some notes, and not knowing what bad outs the mare might evolve, he began to think seriously of selling.

In a tone of regret he said he would drive her around the track once more and think about it—this after Jason had gone up to four seventy-five, adding with a grit of his teeth in the tone that showed he meant it, "and not another cent!"

Uncle drove down the track and for a brief space was lost to view beyond the hall, at the rear entrance, and when he came back jumped with the air of a martyr resignedly from his gig.

"I guess you ken take her," said uncle. "Take hoss an' gig fer five hundred dollars?"

After some haggling Jason accepted the offer and taking out his pocket book uncle quickly closed the strap over a half a thousand, trying to contain himself from growing out of his boots while doing so, and Jason Tupper likewise trying to withhold his consciousness of increased riches in the possession of the fastest horse in Phillips Corner.

Thinking only of his good fortune, Jason Tupper sprang into his gig behind his newly purchased trotter, giving no heed to Uncle Zeke, as the latter hurried to the main entrance.

Jason's friends, and admirers of horses generally gathered around him as he sat in his gig, offering their heartiest congratulations and looking critically at the champion. But somehow the horse seemed dumpish. There was no fire in her eye, and one dealer remarked, that as Zeke Thrasher made the last half of the track, in the drive he took just before the money was passed, it didn't seem to him it was the same animal on the track.

They were noting and in this way commenting, while uncle was speaking to me at the entrance. "Ye did well," he said. "Ye did well not to drive in. 'Cause I didn't want her seen. Did she hold hard?" I told him that she was rather restless, and leaving the gig as I spoke, he took my seat and the ribbons and drove down in front of the grand stand.

"Want to swap hosses? Swap hosses fer five hundred dollar's to boot! Who-o-o-Nancy!" Nancy was the name of the Boston mare, and as Uncle Zeke shouted the word, and held back on the reins, coming up and stopping alongside of Jason Tupper, the latter turned pale.

For a moment Tupper was speechless, and then he shouted, "You've robbed me! What fraud is this?" and he looked at his listless dead and alive thing before him with head down, and from it to the uneasy and noble animal a few feet away—restless and impatient as it were to get at a distance from such commonplace company. Some crookedness had been consummated—that was evident.

"No fraud or robbery," said Uncle Zeke, "no fraud or robbery! You're all right Jason Tupper! You bought the daughter o' the mare ye sold me six years ago, an' I sold her to you! You were satisfied, an' I was satisfied! Now what more d' ye want? If you buy what you want fer the price you set, an' then find out afterward that buyin' on yer own judgment's a pooty poor light to go by, an' that you bought too high—that ye bought a hoss with a dif'rent trot from what ye expected, it's about time when ye do that, to git out o' the hoss business an' git into some other kind o' follorin' that ye understand! Do it soon's ye ken—I should! What do you s'pose is your business? Whoa-Nancy! Whoa!"

Uncle Zeke had gone on conscious of one great snicker from every one in hearing, and knowing that the farthest was retailing the spice to others, until the grand stand as well as those opposite were knowing that Jason Tupper had been stepped ahead of in a horse deal—but just how was a mystery.

"Hello, what's comin' here?" and Uncle Zeke as he spoke looked up the track where every eye was on an old gray horse moving very slow, seemingly the ruins of what was never much of a horse. "Pat Hagerty, I vow!"

and uncle laughed the words, as the man in the gig that was coming in front, laughed a reply in "Did ye do it Misher Thresher? Did ye do it? Ye sould me this old horse for twenty dollars that ye said ye ped him two hundred for, an' now if ye got some iv it back I'm glad!"

I had joined, on the road coming, Pat Hagerty at the fork in the turnpike, and told him about uncle's Boston mare,—that he had gone ahead to put her on the track, and I was coming up with our slow "colt," in hopes as uncle said, that the fast gray would sell the slow gray. He had been guessing at uncle's scheme, when uncle had me change places with him at the back entrance behind the hall, the old man saying "Consarn him, he swears I'm lyin'. Says I'm drivin' on the track the daughter o' the mare he sold me six year ago! I'll give him enough on't!—Callin' me a liar! I'll sell him the d'generacy o' what he sold me, as long as he insists on't!"

Pat Hagerty heard no more, and I had nothing to tell him, but he knew and so did I, what was coming—that there was some skinning to be done in a horse trade, and that this time the coon to be "skunned" was Tupper.

"Now Pat," said Uncle Zeke to the man coming up in the gig, who stopped as he spoke, "I want you to tell me right here—right afore ev'rybody!—I want you to say how much I cheated ye on that hoss ye got in them shafts, and that ye bought o' me? Now come, tell right out!"

"I chated meself! Bought the devil's mother I may say, while ever she had life, at my own price, you advisin' me to buy the sorrel. But I tuk me own way an' iv course am sat-is-fied!"

"Well now Pat you're holdin' the ribbons on

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the mother o' one o' these two hosses, now which o' 'em is her daughter?"

"No need o' me answerin' that!" said Pat. "Can't any one see the two in family? Ould age lank an' lame, an' young age fat an' lazy! An' over here," and he looked at the Boston mare—life from her nostrils to the last hair of her tail, as she stood proud in the shafts before uncle, "over here is the fire iv the road! Ye see it!—See it in her huff an' eye!"

The word came to clear the track for the next trot.

"I guess," said Uncle Zeke, as the inquiring knot of humanity around the gray horses united and the band struck up "Yankee Doodle," "I guess the next time Jason Tupper you won't want to call me a liar right afore ev'rybody at Cattle Show, an' then put in five hundred dollars in yer faith that I am a liar! Costs five hundred dollars to call me a liar Jason,—an' ye have to settle out o' court at that!"

### Swift Vengeance.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY RUPH BARMBY.

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IF the reader will glance at a map of America, he will notice that a promontory of land juts out from Central America toward the peninsula of Florida (the two together forming the confines of the gulf of Mexico), and which as he doubtless well knows is the province of Yucatan. The history and interior of this country is but comparatively little known to this day. Formerly it is reported to have been inhabited by such a fierce and warlike race of Indians as to render its exploration practically impossible. Many a scientific and exploring expedition went into its tangled forests in early spring never to return or be heard from again. Tradition has it that long ago a native dweller on the seashore succeeded in penetrating far into the interior, and climbing a lofty tree saw in the distance the towers and spires of an ancient city, but upon returning to the coast again and telling of his discovery, was found on the morrow in his lonely hut with a dagger sticking in his heart.

The Yucatan of today is not especially interesting. It is for the most part in a low flat country, covered with a dense and tangled growth of tropical verdure. From Merida, its principal city, on its northwest coast, a pretense at a railroad runs some little distance inland. The country produces for export mainly a species of cactus from which rope is made. Its inhabitants of today are, in the main, peaceable and industrious, of a mixed Indian and Spanish blood. Who their Indian ancestors were they do not know, but modern science has at least discovered that they were a race of advanced intelligence and culture. Also that they left behind them ruins of vast structures of stone, some of them bearing carvings of most fantastic shape; which would go to demonstrate that the legend of the early explorer from the coast certainly savored of the truth.

One peculiarity of Yucatan is that it is almost wholly wanting in brooks and rivers, so that practically all the water supply which it affords must have been gotten from the many caves and subterranean caverns which, curiously enough, are found throughout the country. The early inhabitants of the country, whoever they were, must have frequently resorted to these caves, both to enjoy their cool and dim interiors, as well as to obtain water, which drips from their ceilings in many places, drop by drop, and which could be obtained nowhere else. The very fact that many of the ancient ruins of Yucatan are in the vicinity of these caves would of itself indicate that they were often thus visited.

But who were these early visitors? Who can tell? There is an ancient legend, for the truth of which I do not undertake to stand sponsor, that long ago a famous chief among these people, whoever they were, had a daughter, Uxna, so beautiful of face and feature and graceful of carriage that the fame of her spread abroad throughout all this land, and many young braves made the long and tedious journey to the north, where her father resided, solely for the purpose of looking upon her, or possibly with a few of the more daring, to make the attempt, though destined to failure from the beginning, to win her hand in wedlock.

Now there also dwelt at about this time in the extreme south of the country, probably as far down as what is now known as the province of Guatemala, a young chief of most extraordinary courage and physical strength, the bitter enemy of the tribes of the north, whose skill and tact in battle were well known; and seldom indeed were he and his people compelled to undergo the humiliation of defeat. His chief peculiarity was his love of the dog, and his devotion to its training and breeding was one of the principal secrets of his success in arms.

Much of his time had been devoted to the training and taming of the Yucatan dog, rough drawings of which antedating the sixteenth century, with its slender body, long snake-like neck, and head somewhat resembling that of an eagle, are to be seen on ruins in Yucatan to this day. He invariably went into battle accompanied by a large pack of these fierce animals, long since extinct, and it was to their savage ferocity, to a large degree, that his victories were due.

Reports of Uxna's beauty finally reached as far south even as the home of this rival chief—

tain, Anxul, and he resolved, as many another had done before him to make the journey to the north, and if possible bring back this fair damsel as his bride. He accordingly set out, unaccompanied except by a chosen pack of his best and most sagacious Yucatan dogs. It is a remarkable fact, that though Yucatan is so poorly supplied with water courses, it is favored nevertheless with as luxuriant a growth of matted jungle as can well be found. To make one's way through this forest tangle is a herculean task, even at this day, but Anxul was not a man to be deterred by any such obstacles, and though it involved many days of wearisome travel through the unbroken wilderness under the burning sun, he finally made his way to the palace of the north, and concealed himself in the thicket near the massive structure of cut stone laid in mud cement, with his faithful dogs close at hand.

And now how was he to obtain a glimpse of the vision of beauty he had come so far to see? To wait patiently hidden where he was until the object of his search should walk abroad in the cool of the day, as was the custom with all, seemed to be his only course, alone as he was in the midst of so many enemies, and this he determined to do. Nor was he destined to be long disappointed, for on the second day of his vigil, towards sundown such a one came forth from the palace as could be none other than she, and but to gaze upon whom was ample reward to Anxul for all the privations of the long journey he had endured.

But how was he to make known to this fair one the object and purpose of his visit? This was the matter which the young chief was turning anxiously in his mind as he watched from his place of concealment the damsel slowly pace along the path from the castle to the great, yawning mouth of the cave in the hill nearby, which was alike the source of the water supply of the castle and the cool retreat of the royal household from the heat of the fierce tropical sun, in the interior of which a pile of fagots was continually kept ready for burning, to furnish light to the visitor to its dim depths.

Uxna passed within the cave, as was her wont at this time of the day, to apply her torch to the pile of fagots and sit for awhile watching its cheery blaze in the cool and damp interior. No sooner had she entered than the lithe body of the young chief emerged from the thicket and followed noiselessly after with tread as soft as that of the cougar, and movements as supple as the adder's.

Now it so happened that Uxna had been thinking much of the future of late, as she sat gazing into the bright flame of the fagots. She was now no longer a child, but had come to womanhood, and true to her sex was already impatient to add as only woman can to the happiness of another, rather than continue longer in her present life of lonely isolation. Yet her father was so stern! Not one of the brave young chiefs who came to the castle so frequently was permitted by him for a moment to sue for her hand, but was turned roughly and angrily away. Not yet! was his invariable reply to any remonstrance from her upon the matter.

Such things as these she was brooding upon that day, when lifting her eyes she beheld directly before her as handsome and sturdy a young chief as had ever yet been at the castle. Instinctively her heart told her the meaning of his presence there, and leaped within her as she listened with burning cheeks to the passionate words which the reader may imagine him breathing out to her. Fear, surprise, caution, all were forgotten in the thrill of response which swept over her. "I am Anxul, prince of the south, come to claim you. My kingdom shall be yours, and my right arm shall protect you. Come and be my bride!" pleaded the young chief; but had the two been less engrossed in one another they would have noticed a stalwart form noiselessly entering the cave, none other than the irate father himself, constantly on the watch over his daughter, and that the young chief was already in danger of his life, himself.

As the words "Anxul, prince of the south," reached the ears of the approaching form, his face became livid with rage. His hated enemy, here in the very midst of his realm! and in the presence of his child! Instantly his hand went to his side where was constantly kept his sharp dagger of flint, chipped to the finest possible edge. Like a snake, with glistening eyes and darting tongue, creeping with noiseless folds upon its unsuspecting prey, the furious chief crept up under the shelter of a neighboring rock, to avenge himself at last upon this long time enemy. Slowly the bronze arm clinching the dagger was raised little by little above the rock until it was directly over the head of the unsuspecting Anxul.

Already the knife had begun its lightning descent when a sound like a rushing wind filled the cave, and in the twinkling of an eye the upraised arm was in the jaws of the Yucatan pack. To struggle for life against their ferocity was useless, and almost before the other occupants of the cave were aware of what had happened, the body of the unfortunate assailant was torn limb from limb, the very bones being crushed between the unyielding teeth of the relentless animals, and scattered about the cave. Uxna fainted at the awful sight, but was borne away unconscious in the strong arms of Anxul, not again to recover consciousness until she was far on the way through the jungle toward the south.

It is said that peace is the foster mother of progress. May it not be that the feuds between the tribes of the north and the south of Yucatan having been brought to an end by the marriage of the princess of one to the prince of the other, opened the way to that high state of development which science tells us from the relics which it left behind, was reached by the early inhabitants, of whom so little is known?

Occasionally in the caves of this country to-day there are to be found bits of broken earthenware, the charred embers of fires kindled by unknown hands thousands of years ago, and in one of them has been discovered broken bits of human bones!

Scientific men have suggested that putting these three clues together—the embers, the broken dishes, and the shattered human bones, there is pretty good evidence that these early people were cannibals. What does the reader think; are these the remains of some demoniacal feast held in the dim cave, or might the earthenware be the remnants of water dishes, set about here and there to catch the dripping water, the charred wood the refuse of the fires that furnished light to the early visitors, and the crushed bones in the embers the last fragments of that charge of the Yucatan pack abandoned by them before the fagot fire? When he shall have determined these things to his satisfaction he will have solved the secret

of these caves, which they have kept untold already for a thousand years and more.

### Three Chautauqua Girls.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY SARAH E. GANNETT.

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OODBYE, goodbye, goodbye," sang the Chautauqua chorus, five hundred voices strong.

"Goodbye," pealed the great organ and the two grand pianos.

"Goodbye, goodbye," shouted the orchestra with all the strength of its many and variously attuned voices. The vast audience rose to its feet, the fluttering handkerchiefs gave the Chautauqua salute, turning the old amphitheatre into a billowy sea of white, and the Chautauqua Assembly of 1900 was ended and its members reluctantly streamed out into the shady

streets and spread far and wide through the grounds. Three young ladies, with singing books in their hands, came out of the choir entrance and walked down the hill toward the pier-house. "Now is our chance, girls," said one of them. "But we must hurry, or some one else will have monopolized our corner before we get there. No, Harry," turning to a young man who came hastily toward them with invitation in his eye, "I cannot go rowing tonight. I know the moonlight is enchanting, but Miss Starr leaves in the morning, and this will be the last meeting of our trio. Tomorrow night I'll go with you."

The girls sped on, across the mall, and up the inclined walk to the broad, second-story veranda of the pier-house, where they were soon in possession of the coveted corner, from which they could look down upon the lake sparkling in the moonlight, the pier, alive with steamers and moving forms, and the beautiful, tree-shaded lawn crowded with people walking about or sitting on the benches.

For a time the girls sat quietly enjoying the scene, but at length Marjorie Starr drew a long breath, exclaiming:

"To think that this is my last night in this beautiful place! But teachers, like beggars, cannot be choosers, so I go where duty calls," and she ended with a resigned sigh and a dramatic flourish.

"Well, Marjorie," said Julia Randolph, "Mary King and I would pity you if we could, but the same evil day is coming for both of us and all too soon, and we have no sympathy to waste. But come, you know we were each to tell tonight of some experience which has come to us which will help us in our next year's teaching. Who begins? Mary?"

"Not I," answered the girl who had, so far, taken no part in the conversation. "I am sorry not to do my part, but I can think of nothing which has happened to me this summer outside of Chautauqua which is worth the telling, or which will help my teaching in the least."

"Oh! oh!" exclaimed both girls, "indeed you cannot be left off in that way. You must tell us something."

"But how can I? I've nothing to tell."

"Well," said Julia, hesitatingly, "would you mind?—I've wanted to know all summer—telling us why your hair is so white? You surely are as young as we, but your hair is as white as my grandmother's."

"Yes, I am only twenty-five; but, well, I will tell you if you like after you have each told your story. It was a terrible experience, one of which I do not like to think, and I seldom mention it; but you have a right to know it. Now, Marjorie, you begin."

"Well," answered Marjorie, "my last Easter vacation was spent in Pittsburgh, that city of smoke, dirt and cinders. One day my friend, who is much interested in settlement work, took me to visit a school for teaching poor young girls how to make a home. We went

down into the heart of the city, where the houses are of many stories, but where two or three rooms at most make the home of a family. Here a building of four stories and a basement had been rented and fitted up for this work, and here we found fifty or sixty girls from ten to twenty years of age, busily and happily employed. In the basement was the laundry, and here were a dozen girls washing and ironing; for all the pupils are invited to bring not only their own personal washing but that of their entire family, to be washed, ironed and mended.

"On the first floor were kitchen, dining-room and parlor. In the kitchen are prepared not only lunch and dinner for the pupils, but also for the children whom some of the girls are obliged to bring with them. In the dining-room they learn to serve a meal in a proper manner and also take turns in sitting at the head of the table and acting as mistress. In the parlor they are taught by turns to be parlor maid, visitor, and lady of the house, receiving visitors and governing and directing her household.

"Up stairs we found, besides the living rooms and bedrooms of the teachers, a fine library and reading-room for the girls, a nursery for babies, a kindergarten and playroom for the older little ones and a sewing-room where both making and mending of garments is carried on. Among the workers in this room I noticed a little girl of ten with an anxious, careworn face. She was patching with infinite pains a tiny pair of pants, but I could see that her thoughts were only half upon her work. Every

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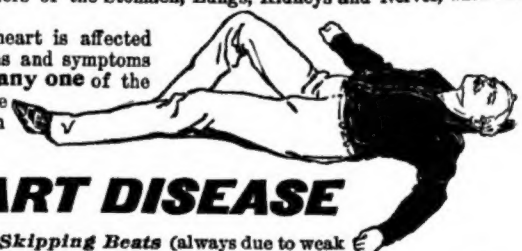
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few moments she would run across to the nursery door and listen, and finally, as a baby's fall issued from that room she disappeared altogether. We soon after followed and found her sitting in the nursery, a baby of six months on her lap, while a pair of two year old twins and a little cripple of four years cuddled at her side. We went softly out before we were observed and our guide told us the story of this brave little woman.

"Her mother died last Christmas, leaving seven children, of whom this little Mary is the eldest. With her last breath she begged Mary to keep the children together and make a home for the father. He is a millman, and fond of the children and of his home when not in liquor, but a very demon when drunk, and little Mary was trying, with all the skill and tact she could command, to make a comfortable home for him, and so to induce him to stop drinking. Oh, it was so pathetic! the sight of that tiny child so bravely doing a work that many and many a woman has failed to accomplish. Girls, it seems to me that if that settlement should succeed in helping only that one little one in her hard life, if it saves only that one family from evil, it will be worth all it has cost.

"That morning's visit taught me a lesson that I shall never forget, and I shall try my best, this year, to get near my pupils, to learn something of their home lives, their trials and perplexities, their joys and sorrows, and try, as far as I can, to help them."

There was a moment's pause when Marjorie ceased speaking, and then Julia said, seriously: "You are right, Marjorie. Such a work is a noble one, and we ought all to keep watch for opportunities to help it on, but there is another side of the social question which has troubled me much of late, and I am trying to do my little best to remedy this evil. It relates to a very different class of society than the one of which you were speaking, however, and perhaps you will laugh at my anxiety.

"As you know, my school is in Washington, a sixth grade in the northwest part of the city, and my way to school leads me through Iowa Circle, which is surrounded by the residences of wealthy people, and where the colored nursemaids of the neighborhood are in the habit of gathering with their tiny charges. Some of these maids are trustworthy, and devote their entire attention to the children as they play about under the trees; but there are others who wish to gossip with each other, or worse, with a male friend, and who will not be interrupted by running after the children. Frequently I have seen babies lying screaming in their carriages, with the hot sun full in their faces, or an older child forced to sit for an hour on the bench by the nurse while she enjoyed herself. Many a time I have seen such a little one cuffed and shaken by the nurse when it cried to get down and run about, and the language and the threats used to the poor little innocent babies are enough to make one's blood run cold.

"Finally, one day last spring, after I had seen a high-spirited boy of two years beaten, shaken, sworn at and frightened several times by his unprincipled nurse I could bear it no longer, and ventured to call upon his mother and tell her what I had seen and heard. At first she would not believe me, she had so trusted the girl; but at length she was induced to go herself to the park disguised by a mourning dress and a thick veil, and one hour there convinced her that I had told only the truth and that her boy was being shamefully abused by the nurse. She trembled for fear she had made the discovery too late, and that the boy's mind might be already permanently injured, and she took immediate possession of the child and dismissed the nurse upon the spot.

"I succeeded in that one effort of mine, but think of the thousands of children of the better classes who are thus left to the mercy of ignorant, wicked servants! Surely there should be a school for wealthy mothers to teach them their duty to their babies."

"Yes, there's no doubt as to the necessity of such a school, Julia, dear; but the thing is to make those mothers see its necessity, or even if they acknowledge it to be willing to sacrifice themselves for their little ones."

"Why, girls," interrupted Mary, "there is the 'Mothers' Congress'; you know that was organized partly for that very purpose, and they say it is doing a good work along the lines for which it is carried on."

"Oh, yes," replied Marjorie, "I had forgotten that; but still, how few, comparatively, of the mothers ever heard of that, or, if they do know of it will take the pains to profit by its advice and teachings."

"I know," answered Julia, "it is a discouraging outlook, but still I am going to try to raise the standard of the nursemaids of Iowa Circle, at least. But it must be half-past nine o'clock, and the chimes will ring in half an hour, and we have yet to hear Mary's story; so I'll stop talking. Go on, Mary," and Mary began:

"It was five years ago last June and I was just twenty years old, when I closed my first year of teaching in Pass Christian, Mississippi, and started for a month's visit to my grandmother in Camden, Arkansas, before going to my home. There was a smallpox scare in Pass Christian just then, so the schools were closed a week earlier than schedule time, and without a day's warning; so I was that much earlier in my visit than I had arranged to be, and arrived very unexpectedly.

"My grandmother lives in one of those large, white, two-storied mansions so common in the South, with the gable projecting over both first and second story porches, and supported by tall white columns. Long wings run out to right and left, which, since my grandfather's death, have been much neglected. I found the house full of company, aunts and cousins, and no room vacant for that night but one in the disused east wing.

"There was no help for it, so I took possession as bravely as I could, locked my door, and surveyed my quarters. An immense room panelled to the ceiling, a great open fireplace, heavy, old-fashioned furniture and the bed a 'four-poster' with dark silken hangings.

"I hurriedly undressed and tumbled into bed, leaving my candle burning and longing for daylight; but youth and the fatigue of the journey soon overcame my fears, and for an hour or two I slept soundly. Suddenly I sprang up in bed with the feeling that there was some living thing in my room. My candle had burned out, but, although there was nothing standing by it, I had forgotten to look for the matches before I went to sleep and I dared not get up to hunt for them. Soon the thing, whatever it was, began to move about, and I could hear its feet on the floor and a snapping, snarling, gasping sound as it felt its way along. Before long it reached the bed, and seizing the silken hangings at the foot tore them down

with a growl of rage and began to clamber on the bed, while I slipped softly over the low headboard and crouched behind it, listening in terror to the tearing of the sheets and counterpane.

"Who or what my unwelcome visitor was I could not conjecture. I dared not cry out; I could not make a light, and so I remained as I was until the creature crawled over the headboard just as I had done, and landed on the floor near me. Then I began to creep softly away, but wherever I went the dreadful thing followed, still snuffling and whining. Round and round the great room we went, I dare not say how many times, until it seemed to me that I could not go another step. I tried, when I reached the door in the first round, to unlock it and get out, entirely forgetting that I had been so foolish, when I locked it at bedtime, as to remove the key and hide it under my pillow. When this fact finally dawned on my bewildered brain I also remembered that I had heard it, when the creature was tearing up the sheets, fly out of the bed and strike against some article of furniture. Under the circumstances I could not, of course, search for it, so I was evidently, to my horror, a prisoner in the room until daylight.

"At last the creature wearied of its wanderings about the room dropped asleep on the floor; but I dared not stir, and daybreak found me still standing with my hands on the wall ready to move on at the slightest motion of the thing towards me. Daylight showed me a great mass of coarse grey hair coiled up on the floor, but this in no wise relieved my terror. However, I managed noiselessly to reach the window, remove the screen, climb out, and, clinging to the windowseat and sills, to close it securely. There I hung or clung until some of the servants discovered and released me; but for three weeks I raved in a brain fever, and it was months before I was myself again. Do you wonder that my hair is white?"

"Indeed I do not; but what was the thing, and how did it come to be there?"

"It was a Barbary ape which had escaped from a travelling show a day or two before. It had evidently clambered down the great chimney and hidden in the fireplace, and its movements about the room were only its efforts to find its way out; but I shudder, even now, to think what might have been my fate had I fallen into its clutches in his enraged state."

"I don't wonder. What an awful experience it was! But we must not let you think of it any more tonight or you will not be able to sleep. Oh! there are the chimes now, ringing for ten o'clock and bedtime. How lovely they sound with the moonlight and the beautiful, dark blue lake. That's 'Auld Lang Syne' that they are playing, and now they have changed to 'Home, Sweet Home.' And as the last liquid bell note dropped upon the air the girls rose and with arms about each other's waists went silently down from the veranda and disappeared under the dark, over-arching trees.

### A Friend In Need.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT BY M. B. THRASHER.

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GEORGE Kingsley thrust the rake which he was using out beneath the overhanging branches of the alder bushes and drew it back with an angry jerk, as if the wisp of hay which it brought back each time was a personal offender against his rights. Across the field his father raked steadily opposite him. They had begun at the lower end of the big meadow and were raking around it, drawing the hay away from the bushes which grew about the field to where a horse rake could get at it. At the upper end of

the meadow they met.

The farmer bent over and felt of a handful of the last roll of hay which his rake drew in. It rustled in his hand, dry and crisp. He looked out over the big field, shimmering gray-green in the blazing sun of an August afternoon, and then looked up at the cloudless sky.

"You go and hitch the horses into the cart," he said, "and I'll begin raking. Tell the girls to get up the cows for us, tonight, so as to save time, and have Alma come down in about two hours to rake after the cart. If we have good luck we'll finish up today."

"Then I can't go to the game," his son said, twisting the handle of his rake around in the soft ground into which he had thrust it. He knew he could not go, and yet he could not keep from asking once more.

This was to be such a great game. His own high school nine, at the village only two miles away, were to play the nine from another school; and George had always played first base. Of course there were fellows who could take his place, but this was to be the great game of the year, because Anderson, the famous college player, the idol of half the school boys of New England, the athlete who had broken the records of years and won numberless championships for his college, was coming to umpire the game.

The boy's father's lips shut together in what one of his neighbors once had called "Kingsley's steel trap."

"No," he said. "I told you so once. I don't want to hear anything more about it." He stuck his rake up beside the other, and started across the field to where a horse hitched to a horse rake was feeding in the shadow of a clump of water maples.

The man did not mean to be unkind, or even unreasonable. He loved his children, and had

no dearer object in life than to provide for their welfare in what seemed to him the best possible way. And yet his fellow townsmen said: "Si Kingsley's a hard man on his family." He kept his children in school until they graduated from the high school, but he did not believe in college education, and he did not hesitate to declare that he thought athletics foolish. "Jest let 'em work on a farm," he would say, "if they want to get up muscle." The summer had been a trying one for both father and son. George had graduated from school that year and wanted to go to college. His father not only would not help him, but would not even give him permission to go. The clash between the ball game and this last day's work in haying had called forth from Mr. Kingsley what he had intended for a final decision in the matter.

Two hours later the hay had been tossed into tumbles and they had begun carting it. George loaded the great forkfuls as his father passed them up to him on the cart, and Alma, one of the boy's sisters, rode the horse rake back and forth behind the load to gather up the scatterings. As fast as a load was put on it was driven to the barn and the hay mowed away.

Afterwards, neither George nor his father could tell just how the accident happened. They were going to the barn. The farmer himself was driving. Perhaps he made too short a turn, or else a wheel may have dropped into a hidden rut. George felt the lofty load quiver, lurch sideways, and go over. He struck the ground near the horses. One horse was down and struggling. It was the work of but a moment for the boy to unbuckle the harness and let the beast free. Then he saw that his father was caught beneath the load.

The farmer's body was hidden by the hay. He lay upon his back, with only his head in sight, and the binding pole across his breast with the weight of a good part of the load upon it. He could not speak, and his purple face and gasping breath showed that his life was being crushed out.

The boy thrust his arms into the hay and tried to drag his father out, but could not. Then he seized hold of the end of the pole, where it projected beyond the end of the load, and tried to free the helpless man from its weight, but the pole only bent and sank deeper into the hay.

He cried for help again and again, but the cart had stopped in a turn of the road which was out of sight from both house and meadow, and too far away for any one to hear him. He was down on his knees now, tearing wildly away at the hay. He had forgotten the ball game, college, everything, now, except that the man who was dying there was his father.

Something crashed in the bushes beside the road, and a man came leaping through. A young man in knickerbockers and a gorgeous sweater.

"What's the matter?" he cried. "Who shouted for help?" and then, in a moment seeing the answer to his own question, said to the boy, "Come here," and ran to the end of the load where the pole stuck out.

"Take hold of the end of that pole," he said, "and lift for all you're worth."

Then, stooping down in front of the boy, to where he could just place his shoulder under the pole, he slowly, slowly straightened upward.

"Pull him out!" he gasped. "Shout when you've got him!"

George darted around the cart and dragged his father out to the roadside, crying "All right!" as he did so.

The load settled back upon the ground again, and the young man came out from behind it pulling his sweater down into place.

When his neighbors talked the matter over afterwards, they said: "Si Kingsley never'd have give in an' let George go to college in the world, if it hadn't been for that college chap who was goin' cross lots there after the ball game gettin' along jest in season to h'ist that load of hay off'n him. An' if he hadn't come Si pretty likely never 'd have consented nor objected to much of anything more in this world."

George plays first base on his college nine, and twice, when there have been great games coming off, his father has been down to see him play.

### CURIOUS CONDITIONS CHANGED BY QUIET.

When jaded by the cares and worries of this life, when filled with a spirit of unrest, the best thing imaginable for the afflicted to do is to hie himself to new scenes—to the primeval wilds, in that part of New England known as the fishing regions, there to enjoy a period of absolute quiet.

The enjoyment, the complete retirement in which one finds himself, is the best health restorer you can find. The manipulation of hooks, nets and lines, the sight of a big, wary fish, anxious for a tussle, and the excitement attending the landing of one of these fine fellows, will drive away the blues, and every moment of the spring vacation is one of intense enjoyment.

The regions, or sections, which offer allurements to the early fisherman are several, but the most prominent and conspicuous are the Moosehead and Rangeley regions, though many sportsmen prefer the Allegash region or the territory in Washington County, Maine, while others single out Lake Winnepesaukee or Memphremagog or Sunapee or Champlain, or, perhaps, some one of the streams or lakes of the Adirondacks is the choice for the spring sport.

The Boston & Maine Railroad reaches every section in which spring fishing is a predominant feature, and the pamphlet, "Fishing and Hunting," gotten out by its General Passenger Department, whose offices are in Boston, Mass., is chockfull of interesting information which every sportsman should read, and a two-cent stamp sent to the above address will procure it for you.

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Dr. T. A. SLOCUM, Oct. 19, 1900.

DEAR SIR:—I received your letter, also the remedies that you sent at my request. The pain in my chest has vanished and I am feeling a great deal stronger than before. I shall recommend your remedies to all in my town who are suffering from consumption or any disorder of the throat, chest and lungs. Thanking you very kindly for what you have done for me, I remain,

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M. T. BOOKER.

SYCAMORE, Ga.

Dr. T. A. SLOCUM, Feb. 13, 1901.

DEAR SIR:—My delay in reporting to you the effect of your wonderful remedies was prompted by the desire to ascertain whether the results would be permanent, and am now thoroughly convinced that your Remedies are all that you have claimed. My wife has been losing strength and flesh for about twelve months. She has taken your remedies and gained several pounds. I will gladly recommend your medicine to my friends. Please accept thanks for your kindness in sending the Remedies, and if I need any more of your medicine I will send to you for it. Respectfully,

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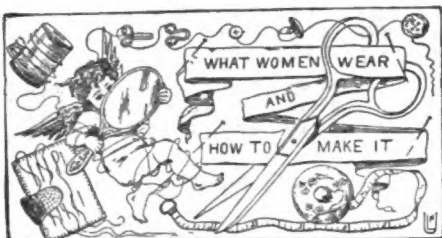
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WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



THE summer girl considers her shoes an important item, and very justly so this season, for though the skirts are long, they will be well held up and the shoes very much in evidence. This year are shown a number of fascinating shapes. Shoes for utility are not pointed at all but shaped like a man's shoe, straight on the inside and curved on the outside. This shape carried out in a girl's trim shoe makes her foot look very much smaller, and is quite as good as a pointed shoe and far more comfortable. Very stunning some of these shoes look and one finds oneself admiring them whether on the pretty foot of a pretty girl or arranged in the shop window. The very daintiest of all the new shapes in shoes is the Colonial; a low shoe, having a round toe, a high, arched heel, or a low flat one as one's taste may incline, and two little flaps crossing and buttoning each way over a large, pointed tongue adorned with a large square buckle of gold or silver. This is the very latest cry in shoddom and no up-to-date maiden considers herself properly geared, as to her feet, if she does not possess a pair of Colonial shoes.

Sleeves are marvelously picturesque, exceedingly fanciful, softly drooping, and infinitely graceful, probably in order that they may match or harmonize with the inserts about the hem and the height of the knee, while the full skirts are more and more in favor. With this drooping effect the bolero is used in countless variations and is completed by deep collars drooping far below the shoulder. Many of these collars are genuine works of art so far as delicacy of needlework is concerned. A wonderfully dainty affair of this sort has white mousseline de soie for the body and is cut in shawl effect with a curve at the back and one at either side. There is a fluffy border of knife-plaited mousseline de soie edged with lace and attached to the collar by means of a lace stitch topped by a fancy Honiton beading. The shape of the curves is followed by three rows of delicate Val lace each outlined by the Honiton beading. No daintier collar can be imagined. Another style of somewhat greater elegance has an under collar of cell blue Liberty silk in square sailor shape bordered with a plaited frill of the silk having a plain edge. Over this is the collar proper of white, transparent Liberty silk appliqued profusely with flowers formed from Honiton braid mixed richly with gold. These flowers arranged along the edge give a graceful, broken effect.

I saw a stunning little frock in white wool as



soft and flexible as crepe de chine; it was folded over on each side of the front to outline a panel, had slight puffers reaching toward the back, and was daintily trimmed about the hem, with the exception of the front breadth,

with a number of graduated rows of gray velvet ribbon. The blouse bodice was made up of grayish tinted lace, very much pouched in front and confined closely about the waist by a girdle of gray velvet fastened by an antique silver clasp set with rhinestones. The Bishop sleeves were finished at the wrist, as was the tall choker by rows of bebe velvet ribbon, gray in color and caught together by tiny silver buttons.

Simple gowns of white wool are made up with tucked skirt and tucked blouses or boleros sometimes bordered with flat bands of the cloth, stitched. Many of the French frocks show such a mixture of materials as to really bewilder one and to make it seem an impossible feat to think of copying one. A gown worn at a recent function shows such a glory of rich coloring and such a mystic arrangement of materials as to make one marvel and yet its construction was most simple when one came to direction. The gown was composed of coarse black net, and had two graduated flounces on the skirt decorated with applique creton flowers in a perfect frenzy of color, largely pinks, greens and pale mauves, the edge of the hem cut out to conform to the shape of the flower. A little bolero of the net bearing the creton decorations fastened on one shoulder with a gorgeous jeweled buckle, while a deep girdle of pale green Liberty satin was crushed about the waist.

Elbow sleeves are certainly very much in favor and wonderfully becoming to a prettily rounded arm. To be sure they necessitate the wearing of the long glove but what is more graceful? I saw a bit of daintiness in the shape of a bodice designed to be worn with a skirt of tucked white crepe de chine but which could be made to do excellent service worn with a skirt of any pretty color or with one of black net; the under slip of this waist was a well-fitted one of white taffeta covered with white mousseline de soie set in clusters of small tucks intersected with inch-wide straps of white taffeta stitched along the edges and ornamented with hand embroidery all in white. A narrow yoke is formed by the application of taffeta bands set together by a fancy lace stitch, the bands decorated with French knots. Bands of taffeta form a girdle to the depth of several inches. The choker consists of several straps of the taffeta set together like the yoke. This dainty dream of a blouse may be worn over a slip of any color with good effect and would look especially charming over a body of brocade in white; the floral decorations are a dull pink.

Lace stock collars entirely unlined are very natty and are combined with every possible sort of gown. They are made without lining of any sort save for the clouding of chiffon or net, and cleverly boned to keep in place. Polka dots are used in profusion in all the new materials. I saw a smart toilette in black and white, the material being black berege polka dotted with white and trimmed elaborately with row upon row of white velvet ribbon on the two circular flounces of the skirt. The bodice was composed entirely of the tucked berege set together by bands of the velvet ribbon, the ends falling below the belt, which consists of white velvet brought snugly around the waist, one end crossed at the back and fastened to the bodice in quite a new and most fetching way.

Buttons are used lavishly upon the newest gowns, among the most popular being those of black satin, very small and having eyelets in the center.

Feeling is a sense—feeling pain is nonsense, when the civilized world can get five-grain antikamnia tablets. Why suffer pain when harmless relief may be had? No matter what the cause, nor where the pain may be, two of these tablets will stop it. Get a dozen from your druggist and have them near by when needed.—Medical Philosophy.

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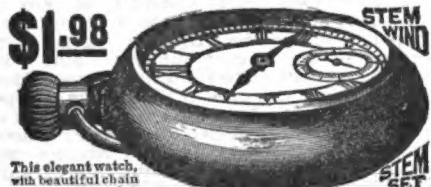
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**EDITOR'S NOTE.** The following rules govern the publication of matter in this department.

Contributors must without exception be regular subscribers to *Comfort*, and every contribution must bear the writer's own name and post-office address in full.

Original letters only, which deal with matters of general interest, will be published. They must be as brief, plain and correct as the writers can make them, and may vary in length from one hundred to four hundred words. Only letters of exceptional merit and interest may reach six hundred and fifty words. Contributors must write on one side of the paper only.

#### \$10 CASH PRIZES \$10.

The following cash prizes will be paid monthly:

1st. For the best original letter	\$3.00
2nd. " " second best original letter	2.50
3rd. " " third " " "	2.00
4th. " " fourth " " "	1.50
5th. " " fifth " " "	1.00

Competitors for these monthly cash prizes must comply with all the above rules, and in addition must bring at least two new Cousins into the *COMFORT* circle; that is, they must send two new subscribers with each letter, together with 50 cents for the yearly subscriptions.

These cash prizes will be announced monthly in this department. No premiums will be given for subscriptions sent in under this Prize Offer.

All communications must be addressed to Aunt Minerva, care of *COMFORT*, Augusta, Maine.

#### CASH PRIZE WINNERS.

Genevieve Fleming,	\$3.00
Mrs. Mary Edmondson Britton,	2.50
Gertrude Lafrentz,	2.00
Frank E. Halbert,	1.50
Mabel E. James,	1.00

#### EAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

June is with us once more—dear, delightful, beautiful June—with all her witcheries of earth and air and sky; and she beguiles us, in spite of our stern resolves not to be lulled from the well-trodden and monotonous path of daily duties, to lose ourselves in the delights of the old but ever new miracle—the awakening of nature. It may be a yellow dandelion by the roadside, it may be a little hooded fern, or it may be

"A noise like of a hidden brook  
In the leafy month of June,  
That to the sleeping woods all night  
Singeth a quiet tune."

But be it what it may it woos us, charms us, and withal, refreshes us so that we feel, as we take up our burdens once more, that life is worth the living, that we have blessings all about us if we will only see them, and that our Heavenly Father cares for the pleasure and happiness of his children as well as for their right or wrong doing.

Blessed be June!

Our first letter this month is a continuation of one which we enjoyed a few months ago, which took us up the Saguenay river to the little village of Tadoussac. Our correspondent says:

"The next morning found us a long distance up the river at Ha-Ha Bay. Here we were obliged to wait for the tide, so our little party of three set out at the early hour of half-past five on a voyage of discovery. An old Frenchman agreed to drive us through the two villages, St. Alphonse and St. Alexis, which lie along the curve of the bay, and we embarked in his ramshackle, one-horse conveyance. He could not speak a word of English, but as two of our party understood French we got along very comfortably together. He had a fine old face, kindly, with a humorous twinkle in his brown eyes, and he seemed to regard everything in the light of a joke, even the serious catastrophe of almost overturning us in the mud



CAPE TRINITY.

"The morning betokened rain, but the sun was struggling through masses of purple clouds, tingling the circling mountains with a misty blue, and sending long streaks of red and amethyst light across the gleaming waters of the bay, where one boat rested with its white sails outspread. The villages themselves were not particularly interesting except for their quaint, almost primitive simplicity.

"Our next stopping place was Chicoutimi, which is as far up the river as the boat goes. The only thing of special interest there was the Cathedral. We remained about an hour and then the steamer turned her course and began the descent of the Saguenay, the mighty, fathomless river which has been called by some the River of Death, or the American Styx. Rugged mountains, covered with a sparse growth of pines, rise straight from the water's edge. It is said that in some parts no fish inhabit the waters nor winged creature the air.

"The steamer moved slowly, giving us time to enjoy the scenery, and at last stopped before Cape Trinity, a gigantic rock rising eighteen hundred feet out of the water and extending two thousand feet below. As we approached it rose before us in three steps. On the first ledge was a figure of the Virgin thirty-two feet in height, and yet appearing only life size. The next step, six hundred feet

higher, was surmounted by a cross. As we rounded the cape it presented another view, for here it towered in all its fearful majesty, sheer up from the water's edge, its top rounded to form three columns, from which it takes its name.

"Cape Eternity, almost as tall, shuts us in just beyond, and the two form a cove or bay. A feeling of almost oppressive awe comes over you as you gaze up at these battlements of nature, which probably no human foot has ever scaled. The pine trees look like a fringe of coarse grass on their brows and a vague dread steals over you lest the whole mass of rock might topple over and crush the steamer, which looks like a mere atom at its base. At one point you can trace a profile on the rocks, the strong, intelligent face of a man with the head thrown back as though reclining. The features are strongly marked and even the eyebrows and beard are defined by pine trees. In some places there are deep crevices where the rocks have cracked in the cold, and down these mountain torrents fall like silver threads suspended from the summit of the cliff to the water.

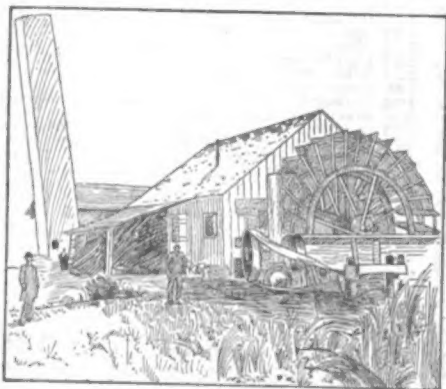
"Just before leaving the steamer gave several shrill whistles, which reverberated again and again among the mountains. For a long distance the banks continued to be a series of lofty mountains, rising peak after peak, and the river is so devious in its course that sometimes we seemed to be completely shut in, as though we were sailing on a lake.

"Just as daylight was fading, however, we again reached Tadoussac, and crossed the line which marks so distinctly the confluence of the two rivers. The stars came out, the flush died away in the western sky, the Saguenay, for us, was a thing of the past and we were steaming up the St. Lawrence toward the grey-walled town of old Quebec."

GENEVIÈVE FLEMING, Washington, D. C.

A few months ago, also, we had a letter on the making of beet sugar in Virginia. Today I have one for you on the making of sugar from cane in Louisiana.

"I am sure a great many of our Northern cousins would like to hear how sugar is made way down south, in Louisiana. The stalks of cane are stripped of all their leaves just as they get ripe, then are cut down and shocked up. In a few days the cane is carried to the sugar house from all over the plantation in little mule cars run on tram tracks. There it is thrown into an immense hopper that gradually drops the stalks between two large rollers which crush the juice out and leave the stalks perfectly dry and useless. The juice is carried by machinery into a square vat or kettle. There it begins to boil. As it reaches a certain



AN OLD DRAINING MACHINE.

stage it is transferred to another kettle simply by turning a crank, and continues to be changed from pot to pot until it gets thick enough to almost cut with a knife. Then it is ready to be carried through a rolling process that seems to fairly wring all moisture out of it. The damp brown sugar comes pouring down a funnel right on the floor in the 'sugar room,' where it is hoed and shoveled up like so much dirt. Then it is either put into sacks and shipped as a cheap grade of sugar, or carried into the refinery near at hand and put into the large, circular, porcelain-lined, centrifugal kettles one after another, and whirled around at a terrific rate and steamed until it comes out the lovely white sugar you see on your table. When it is half syrup and half sugar it is called 'polishes,' and is said by many to be better than either sugar or syrup. All Louisianians are particularly fond of it. But it is of purely local value as it will not keep in this shape, and is not put on the market at all. We have to send to the refinery to get it."

MARY EDMUNDSON BRITTON, Lehmann, La.

I thank James C. Brown, of Farmer's Creek, Michigan, for his letter, and hope he will write again when he has time.

Mrs. F. C. Graves sends me a letter on raising oranges in California, which has been crowded out, but for which I thank her.

Now let us make another summer trip. This time across the ocean to the waterland.

"Perhaps you would be pleased to hear about the trip which I have made to a place held dear in memory by my parents as their birthplace. It is a little island called Fehmarn situated in the East or Baltic Sea, in the eleventh degree of longitude east from Greenwich and between the fifty-fourth and the fifty-fifth degrees of north latitude.

"Fehmarn now belongs to Germany, but prior to 1871 it was under Danish dominion. In area it cannot compete with any one of our great American cities, but it has a very healthy climate and is comparatively well populated. Besides the city of which it can boast there are as many as twenty-five towns and villages.

"The main industry and occupation of the inhabitants is that of farming. In this they are thorough. The soil is very fertile, and wheat, rye, oats and barley yield abundantly. Unlike to what Americans are accustomed, the farmers there dwell in towns, their farmland lying, sometimes, at a considerable distance. In the summer time cows, horses and sheep are tethered in the fields. They are cared for from five to six times daily, and with unfailing regularity. Milking is done mostly by women. An able-bodied, self-respecting man will generally shun it. In fact, few men know how to milk. A milk wagon, a truck not unlike a brewery wagon, from the sides of which are suspended wooden buckets, their bottoms wider than their tops, their insides painted a spotless white while the outside color is a bright green offset by bands of black, is a sight well worthy of a photographer's consideration, especially when the driver's seat is filled by a merry maid wearing a large white apron and an old-fashioned sunbonnet.

"The most unique sight that I beheld was at harvest time. The men, dressed in garments of homespun and homewoven materials, were loading the well-sun-dried sheaves, and were bringing them into the barns. Following them was a busy crowd of poor women and children picking up the stray and broken ears heedless of the fact that their hands were the worse for repeatedly coming in contact with the sharp tops of the stoppel. A bag, serving as a receptacle for their gleanings, was fastened by means of strong strings around the waist, and a knife, occasionally but a broken blade for the purpose of removing the straw, was fastened in like manner.

"Another thing attracting the attention of strangers is their wooden shoes. These are mostly of home production. The trunks of all trees, providing they grow large enough, are available, and the shoe-top is a simple piece of leather taken from an old boot. Nicer ones, often with patent leather tops, the inside padded and lined with prettily designed oilcloth, are also seen.

"As the ocean makes Fehmarn a little world by itself and keeps away outside social and commercial intercourse, the inhabitants are slow to adopt modern theories and methods, and strangers are looked upon and treated as objects of curiosity. On the whole they are a very industrious and hard-

working people, so much so that they have lost all respect for Sunday. An ordinance prohibiting manual labor on Sundays, especially during the hours of Divine services, has been in effect for years, but is not heeded except through fear of the watchful eyes of the police who are ever eager to make arrests."

GERTRUDE LAFRENTZ, Chicago, Ill.

Here is an interesting letter from Colorado. But indeed, I think Colorado cannot help sending us interesting letters it is such a wonderful state.

"In the pioneer days of Colorado gold was the main object of the settler. While standing on the eastern slope of the Rockies and looking eastward over vast, barren plains which he had crossed so laboriously, he little dreamed that the time would come when they would be teeming with farms, orchards and populous towns. Following him came the cattleman who found these plains to be excellent pasture lands, and he turned out upon them vast herds of cattle which increased and multiplied. He paid not a cent for the privilege of grazing his herds of cattle upon the public domains, and they were left to shift for themselves after being branded. Many of the cattlemen took up homesteads on the streams that flow down the mountain ranges and through the plains, and are bordered by bottom lands watered by the spring overflow and underflow from the beds of the streams. These men raised vegetables which they hauled to the mining camps and sold for high prices. After a while they dug irrigation ditches in a small way, so that soon all the bottom lands were under cultivation. Wheat was raised in large quantities and ground into flour by mills located on the streams, and this brought high prices at the mining camps.

"Still the great plains, comprising an area of nearly forty thousand square miles, remained in their natural state. The spring rains covered them with grass and with flowers of rare beauty. Experiments proved that the soil of the plains could be made productive by the aid of irrigation, and straightway the construction of extensive irrigation systems began; so to-day there are more than nine thousand miles of main ditches in the state, and over two million acres of land under cultivation. This development of agriculture has been made possible by the great snowfall in the mountains, which, melting under the influence of spring and summer sunshine, finds its way through a large number of those rivers and creeks, flowing eastward through the plains. For fruit and vegetables, both large and small, Colorado is surpassed by no state in the same zone."

G. F. PULLEN, Thurman, Mo.

Still another summer trip, but this time awheel, and in our own country.

"There are few more interesting short trips awheel than a spin from Kingston, Massachusetts, to Plymouth. Leaving Kingston you ascend a long hill. On either side of the ascent there are fine houses surrounded by well laid out grounds. On the right a number of noble elms line the roadway, while on the left is an evergreen hedge which curves gracefully inward toward the gateways which are placed back several feet. At the top of the hill Plymouth Bay lies before you. On the left, across the bay toward Duxbury, is the monument to Myles Standish, sharply outlined against the sky. Farther on is the double lighthouse called the Twin Lights, and near by is Clark's Island on which the Pilgrims spent their first Sabbath in this country. The long sand bars, one of them over nine miles in length, add much to the beauty of the scene, and keep out the big waves which would otherwise often interfere with sailboats in the bay. In the dim distance can be seen Cape Cod, reaching out into the ocean like a gigantic finger. Toward the right is a bold headland upon which forest trees grow in abundance almost down to the water's edge.

"Pedalling along you pass a very large ash tree, whose low, wide-spreading branches reach out protectively over the walk. This tree is known among the young people as the 'kissing tree.' The tall chimneys of the Plymouth Cordage Co., the tallest one of which measures two hundred and twenty feet, next claim attention. Near the railroad, just before one enters the village of Plymouth, is one of the best springs of water in New England. The water flows with the same volume and at the same temperature the year round, being undisturbed by either the heats or rains of summer or the storms and severe cold of winter.

"A little further on, up the hill to the right, is the monument erected by the Government to the Pilgrim Fathers. It is the finest granite monument in the world. The next place of interest is Pilgrim Hall. Here are to be seen famous paintings of Pilgrim scenes and relics of Pilgrim days, many of which were brought over in the Mayflower. The old cemetery should next be visited, where are weather-beaten and moss-covered tombstones, with quaint epitaphs in old style spelling. Near the center of the town is the oldest street in New England. On one side is a row of lindens trees which were planted by some of the early settlers. At the upper end of the street is a house which was built in 1790. Many were the war councils held within its walls during the Revolution. Near the foot of this street is that famous rock which has been poetically called 'the corner stone of a nation'. Over it has been erected a marble canopy at a cost of \$30,000. Plymouth Rock is now visited by thousands of tourists every year.

"Continuing southward we come in sight of the oldest house in the state if not in New England.



MYLES STANDISH MONUMENT.

It was built from timbers taken from the old fort erected in the early Pilgrim days and destroyed forty or fifty years later. In front of this house stands the tallest willow tree the writer has ever seen. After climbing the hill beyond one should rest for a while at Hotel Pilgrim and enjoy the ocean breezes which are so delightful here on a summer afternoon, before starting on the homeward trip."

F. E. HALBERT, Cortland, N. Y.

From Massachusetts let us go straight a crosshike country and visit the home of one of the western cousins. She says:

"My home is in Salem, the capital city of Oregon and the county-seat of Marion county. We are charmingly situated in the heart of the Willamette valley, on the east side of a river of the same name, about sixty miles above its confluence with that mighty river—Columbia, and about seventy from the Pacific Ocean. Its population is about fourteen thousand. It has beautiful homes, wide streets shaded by maple trees, a handsome court house,

and numerous churches. Many of the state buildings are located here—the hospital for the insane, the penitentiary, the reform school, the school for the blind and that for the deaf and dumb and the United States Indian training school. The state fair is also held here annually on the extensive fair grounds a short distance from the city.

"Salem is an educational center, pupils coming here from all parts of the northwest. The oldest institution of learning here is the Willamette university, founded by the Methodist missionaries in 1840. The city has fine water power, as is evidenced by its many woolen, flour, and saw mills, and various other industries, whose machinery is all moved by water power.

"Salem is surrounded by a fine farming country, the Willamette valley being adapted to the culture of fruit, flax and hops. The average hop crop requires from eighteen to twenty thousand pickers to harvest it; they commence about the first of September and continue picking for three weeks. It is an amusing sight to see the pickers start for the fields; the entire family, from the baby to the grandmother, are loaded upon hayracks together with their camping outfit, and the cow, if they are so fortunate as to own one, is tied behind.

"The climate of Salem, like that of the greater part of Oregon, is pleasing and diversified, being a pleasant mixture of sunshine and rain. She prides herself in her beautiful flowers and glories in her grand and lofty mountains, several of which are visible on a clear day in Salem. A favorite outing for Oregonians is a trip to one of these mountains and an attempt to scale its precipitous sides, and inscribe their names in a book kept at the summit for that purpose."

MABEL E. JAMES, Salem, Oregon.

I must also thank William O. Penney, of Jackson, Missouri, for his letter on "A Turkey Drive." I hope he will not be discouraged because I could not use it, but will try me again.

H. Jones will have to pardon me for not using his letter, which reached me too late to serve the purpose for which he intended it.

And now we must say goodbye for a month.

AUNT MINERVA.

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**June! Month of roses, weddings, commence  
ments and vacations!**

About this time even the pastors begin to think of the wisdom contained in the word "sermons in running brooks."

When the "poor ask for bread" nowadays the millionaires give them libraries and picture galleries. It's the soul that lives anyway, so feed that first.

When Uncle Sam says his letter carriers may wear shirt waists Mrs. Grundy must succumb. The shirt waist has arrived in spite of the frowns of last summer.

Given an active fancy, a guide-book, a week of leisure to get the result—either of disillusion or entire happiness, all depending upon the person who mixes the ingredients of the vacation.

The shortest road to happiness is to skip all the articles of diet, food, and how to keep cool. Don't spend all your time in a mental struggle over the method of doing the stunts the papers propose. The way to accomplish something in these lines is to do nothing.

We count our progress by certain outward and visible signs. Time was when one elephant made a circus; now even the most unsophisticated town demands a herd of elephants. The city has no interest even in the herd of elephants unless they are able to do all sorts of stunts, from waltzing to playing dead. The national horizon has enlarged and the circus has been obliged to offer three rings, and everything else in proportion. As the poor little Japanese remarked, "Everything beeg—in this your United State."

College statistics show a steady increase in the number of graduates. The ratio of college bred men and women to the entire population is steadily increasing. Thousands of earnest young men and women will count June 1901 as one of the milestones of life. All school life is in a large measure artificial. We are born, we die, we marry, but we do not all graduate from some one of the higher institutions of learning. The transition from school into the actual business and social life of the world is the greatest that can be made. The longer the period of study has extended the greater is the separation from practical affairs. The work of the schools is a preparation for life, but it is a preparation that temporarily unfits the recipient. The speed with which he recovers himself after the plunge and adjusts himself to new conditions, is an unfailing index of the value of the preparation. College training is a means, not an end. Regarded by that standard and the familiar word "commencement" taken on a new meaning.

The little old red schoolhouse of early days is fast becoming a mere memory. If land was good for nothing else it was good enough for a school site. Our ancestors were earnest enough in the desire to furnish educational opportunities and noble men and women were the products of the little one-story log or frame buildings. The three "R's" were thoroughly taught and along with them a development of character along the same lines of rugged strength and simplicity. Mere beauty was little regarded in the homes and far less in the schools. What a different picture the rural school of today presents. Every effort is made to beautify the surroundings, for the modern educator realizes

that all this makes for culture. New York state pays particular attention to the grounds of its country schools. A public spirited citizen has offered two prizes of \$50 and \$100 for the best kept school grounds. Walks, trees, flowers and shrubs are to be considered in awarding the prize. A photograph of the grounds is to be sent with some official data. The general observance of Arbor Day led to this idea, and it is one well worthy of adoption in other states.

The phenomenal increase of trolley lines has developed a new sort of personally conducted tour that promises to become popular. A great number of points of interest in our cities can be seen from a street car. Many people dislike to make themselves conspicuous as sight-seers by driving in open carriages while an ignorant Jehu flourishes his whip and imparts a mass of misinformation at the top of his lungs. Washington has originated a scheme of sight-seeing that is being copied in many other cities. At regular scheduled times a car especially built for observation leaves certain points. A nominal sum is charged for the round trip. Each car has a well-informed guide in attendance who gives a rapid, accurate and amusing account of all points of interest. History, gossip, statistics and narration add an interest to the trip. It enables one to get a good general idea of the points of interest. It saves time, money and trouble and this recommends it to the average American who is in as much of a hurry over his pleasure as he is over his business. Now that a railroad is to reach Jerusalem we may anticipate a personally conducted trolley trip through the Holy City as one of the possibilities of the century.

A new method of advertising books will have to be devised if Boston continues to exercise its literary censorship with such a Carrie-Nation-like lack of discrimination. It is not so long ago that the fact that a book or play had been condemned was enough to insure its financial success. Every one wished to judge for himself wherein the offences lay. The committee of the Boston Public Library will soon destroy all the possible advertising that lay in books being rejected by the censors. Out of thirty-two books that had been selected for review by one of the most conservative of papers, Boston rejected twelve as being unfit for a place in its public library. And the list of authors that this included! The best known names in American contemporary fiction—authors whose reputation was so firmly established that they did not need the possible advertising that a less wholesale Index Expurgatorius might have furnished. Upon what have these critics fed that they have grown so dyspeptic? Even the Body of Laws of Massachusetts or the Blue Laws of Connecticut could hardly have set such a standard as these Boston critics. "I am nothing if not critical!" says the old quotation, and by its standard the Boston committee must call itself "nothing"! Criticism is not wholesale denunciation.

1901 is the one thousandth anniversary of the death of Alfred the Great. In 1849 the thousandth anniversary of his birth was celebrated at Wantage, England. Among the best books of the great have been some new biographies of Alfred. His military fame is based upon his success with the Danes. He made a treaty with them and by giving them a definite portion of northern England put an end to the long wars. Alfred established a navy, brought scholars from Europe to England and made the earliest translations of Latin books into English. His embassies penetrated even to India. As a scholar, a warrior and a statesman he left a lasting result in England. As an example of versatility in the strenuous life Alfred stands without a peer in the long line of England's monarchs. It is not what he did however but what he was that forces this busy modern world to step aside for a moment to remember a man who has been dead a thousand years. No trace of what he did remains but what he was in 901, he is in 1901—a character grand in its strength, simplicity and sincerity. "What is excellent as God lives is permanent" says our own Emerson and it is this fact that makes the anniversary exercises of 1901 interesting to all of the English speaking races.

Imitation may be the sincerest form of flattery but there is more than this behind the fact that a successful book is followed by twenty others along the same line. It is the business instinct of writers and publishers that seizes the evidence of the public's interest and proceeds to work the vein until the discriminating reader is surfeited and nauseated. The historical novel has almost exhausted the field of early American history. It is doubtful if any of the popular books in this field of fiction will be read fifty years from now. Sir Walter Scott first developed the historical novel and today Ivanhoe cannot be equalled as a historical novel but it is not widely read now. The dialect stories have made the localisms of towns and county and state familiar to all readers. The local color may be imparted but the authors have much to answer for as thoughtless corruptions of pure English. The persistent reader of dialect stories has his eye and ear so perverted that he ceases to speak good English. "Love letters" both real and imaginary seemed to please the public and forthwith more love letters were printed than all the real lovers of the world ever penned. Kipling's "Jungle Book," "Brer Rabbit" and Thompson's "Wild Animals I Have Known", opened the way for more "animals" than ever went into Noah's Ark. Modern literature illustrates the old theory of the flock of sheep that follow one another over the fence. Art is not imitative but business is.

Summer seems to be considered as the especial time for indulging in what is known as light literature. Novel reading is the general idea of light reading. The novel with a problem or a purpose can hardly be included in this category. To the weary brain worker this mental dissipation may bring rest—the average reader is not in especial need of a lighter mental diet. It is the mental change as well as the physical change of condition that brings rest. Summer is supposed to bring an opportunity for leisure. The person who has followed the popular novels of the year may obtain the necessary mental change by devoting some leisure hours to an acquaintance with what Matthew Arnold has defined as the literature of power. "The best that has been said and thought in the world," is the literature of power. The library of Providence has set aside a room for

this literature and has placed there one thousand books that represent "the best that has been said and thought in the world." The best authors range in chronological order from Homer to Tennyson. Poetry, philosophy, essays and fiction are included in the list. To the summer reader who would prefer to read the novels of power rather than mere time-killers, the list furnishes some suggestions. Arabian Nights may be read. Among the authors of fiction are Bunyan, Cervantes, Dickens, Dumas, George Eliot, Goldsmith, Hawthorne, Hugo, Scott, and Thackeray. Their works are included either in whole or part. The list suggests the well-known books or the best-known books of each author, Pilgrim's Progress, Don Quixote, Tale of Two Cities, Three Musketeers, Adam Bede, Vicar of Wakefield, Scarlet Letter, Les Miserables, Ivanhoe and Vanity Fair. The list of novels is long enough so that at least one might be included in the mass of reading that the summer reader does.

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No.	No.
PIANO OR ORGAN.	VOICE AND PIANO OR ORGAN.
1. The Lord is my Rock and my Fortress.	1. The Lord is my Rock and my Fortress.
2. The Lord is my King.	2. The Lord is my King.
3. The Lord is my God.	3. The Lord is my God.
4. The Lord is my Father.	4. The Lord is my Father.
5. The Lord is my Redeemer.	5. The Lord is my Redeemer.
6. The Lord is my Deliverer.	6. The Lord is my Deliverer.
7. The Lord is my Strength.	7. The Lord is my Strength.
8. The Lord is my Help.	8. The Lord is my Help.
9. The Lord is my Refuge.	9. The Lord is my Refuge.
10. The Lord is my Salvation.	10. The Lord is my Salvation.
11. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Trouble.	11. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Trouble.
12. The Lord is my King of Glory.	12. The Lord is my King of Glory.
13. The Lord is my God of Hosts.	13. The Lord is my God of Hosts.
14. The Lord is my Father of Mercies.	14. The Lord is my Father of Mercies.
15. The Lord is my Redeemer from all Iniquity.	15. The Lord is my Redeemer from all Iniquity.
16. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Distress.	16. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Distress.
17. The Lord is my Strength and my Salvation.	17. The Lord is my Strength and my Salvation.
18. The Lord is my King of Kings.	18. The Lord is my King of Kings.
19. The Lord is my God of Gods.	19. The Lord is my God of Gods.
20. The Lord is my Father of Fathers.	20. The Lord is my Father of Fathers.
21. The Lord is my Redeemer from all Sin.	21. The Lord is my Redeemer from all Sin.
22. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Danger.	22. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Danger.
23. The Lord is my Strength and my Help.	23. The Lord is my Strength and my Help.
24. The Lord is my King of Glory and my God of Hosts.	24. The Lord is my King of Glory and my God of Hosts.
25. The Lord is my Father of Mercies and my Redeemer from all Iniquity.	25. The Lord is my Father of Mercies and my Redeemer from all Iniquity.
26. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Distress and my Strength and my Salvation.	26. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Distress and my Strength and my Salvation.
27. The Lord is my King of Kings and my God of Gods.	27. The Lord is my King of Kings and my God of Gods.
28. The Lord is my Father of Fathers and my Redeemer from all Sin.	28. The Lord is my Father of Fathers and my Redeemer from all Sin.
29. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Danger and my Strength and my Help.	29. The Lord is my Deliverer from all Danger and my Strength and my Help.
30. The Lord is my King of Glory and my God of Hosts and my Father of Mercies and my Redeemer from all Iniquity.	30. The Lord is my King of Glory and my God of Hosts and my Father of Mercies and my Redeemer from all Iniquity.

201	American Liberty March	Cook	236	Across the Bridge	Lo Brown
202	Ancients Abroad, March—Two Step	Cook	260	At Noon tide	H. H.
247	Artist's Life Waltzes	Strauss	27	Ave Maria, From Cavalleria Rusticana	Mascagni
281	Auld Lang Syne, Variations	Durkee	140	Beacon Light of Home	Estabrook
282	Ballad Song, Op. 63, 1	McHugh	137	Belcher Hill, Duet	Edwards
287	Battle of Asterion, Descriptive	Anderson	238	Bells of Seville	H. J.
289	Beauties of Paradise Waltz, 4 hands	Streabog	162	Ben Bolt, of "Trilby" fame	Kenn
297	Beautiful Blue Danube Waltzes	Strauss	282	Between Love and Duty	Drigden
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259	Bombardier March	Cartier	239	Bull Bull, Chorus	Edwards
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255	Cavaleria Rusticana, Four hands	Mascagni	214	Childhood's Happy Hours	Dinsmore
289	Cavaleria Rusticana, Intermezzo	Mascagni	138	Christmas Carol	Turner
33	Cadenances and Scales in all Keys	Cerny	190	Come When the Soft Twilight Falls	Schumann
1	Cadenza, Waltzes	Edwards	280	Cornfield, The, Chorus	Edwards
2	Caedine, Light Galop	Longe	184	Coon's Breach of Promise, Cake walk	Blake
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435	Clayton (Adjutant) March—Two Step	Missud	294	Crown of Glory	Turner
17	Cleveland's March	Notes	286	Danube River	Ellis
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69	Coppella, Valse Lente	Deibes	176	Darling Nellie Gray	Hank
111	Corn Flower Waltzes	Cook	70	Dear Heart, Dear Heart	Edwards
129	Corn Flower Waltz	Cook	27	Dear Heart, We're Growing Old	Estabrook
335	Day Dawn Polka	Cook	302	Dear Little Heart 'Neath the Daisies	Rutledge
63	Dewey's Grand Triumphant March	Marcel	304	Did You Ever Call Me Darling?	Vas
287	Diamond Valley Waltz	Morehouse	128	Don't drink, my Boy, tonight, Temp.	Hoover
299	Eastlake Waltz	Daggett	200	Dream of Love	Edwards
103	Echoing Trumpets March	Notes	286	Dwelling with the Angels, Chorus	Turner
47	Eidelweiss	Heiser	250	Ever Sweet is Thy Memory	Hogrefe
91	Estella, Air de Ballet, Very Bre.	Robinson	19	'E Duuno Where 'E Are, Comic	Ellis
67	Estelle Polka	Simons	180	Far Away	Blythe
55	Evergreen Waltz	Stoddard	182	Father is Drinking Again, Temperance	Edwards
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231	Fantizita Galop	Leitch	156	Flag, The, Quartette	Edwards
231	Fault, Selections	Leitch	144	Flaming in the Starlight	DeLano
233	Fish Nocturne	Leitch	138	Flossie, Waltz Song	Coke
233	Flirting in the Starlight, Waltz	Lasside	66	For a Dream's Sake	Cook
339	Flower Song, Op. 39	Longe	138	For You We are Praying at Home	Estabrook
193	Forestville Waltz	Zehn	166	From our Home the Loved are Going	Perc
177	Freischütz, Selections	Durkee	288	Gathered Roses	Pineau
237	Frog of the Frogs	Wagner	202	Give a Kiss to Me	Cook
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83	Golden Ring, Nocturne	Cloy	200	Golden Moon	Edwards
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17	Home Sweet Home, Transcription	Slack	74	I am So Glad to be Happy Fast	Shelly
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249	Le Petit Bal, "On to Cuba" galop	Durkee	228	Juanita, Ballad	Edwards
249	Lohengrin, Selections	Durkee	242	Kathleen Mavourneen	Crouc
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231	Love's Dreamland Waltzes	Roeder	132	Kiss me, but don't say goodbye	Rutledge
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207	Martha Selections	Johnson	164	Labrador Watch, Duet	William
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263	McKinley and Hobart March	Turner	48	Little Boy Blue, Solo or Duet	Edwards
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31	Monastery Bells, Nocturne	Wetsy	96	Lost Chord, The	Sulztra
61	Morning Star Waltz	Zahn	234	Margaretta	Balt
201	Musle Box, The, Caprice	Liechib	112	Massa's Sleeping in de Churchyard	Keefe
225	My Old Kentucky Home, Variations	Cook	230	Memories of my Mother, Chorus	Allen
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175	National Songs of America	Blake	272	Master's Dialogue, Duet	Estabrook
33	Nightingale's Trill, op. 81	Kullak	76	Mus, the Sweet Tie that binds	Estabrook
271	Ocean Waves Waltz	Keefe	76	My Home by the Old Mill	O'Halloran
23	Old Folks at Home, Transcription	Blake	110	My Little Lost Irene	Dank
17	Old Oaken Bucket, The, Variations	Durkee	210	My Old Kentucky Home	Foster
219	Old Folks at Home, Mazurka	Durkee	116	Oh, Sing Again that Gentle Strain	Dinsmore
219	On the Wave Waltz	Dinsmore	102	Old Folks at Home (Swanee Ribber)	Oates
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245	Orvetta Waltz	Spencer	102	Old Village Church	Hutton
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43	Richmond March—two-step	Missud	274	Private Tommy Atkins	Potter
245	Rustic Waltz	Schumann	136	Request, Sacred	Grainger
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49	Salem Witches March—Two Step	Missud	142	Rosemonde	Chamant
29	Silver Waves, Transcription	Wymn	80	See Those Living Pictures	Adrian
169	Sintha's (General) March	Martin	224	She Sleeps among the Daisies	Dinsmore
295	Souvenir of the Ball Waltz	Clark	124	Softly shine the Stars of Evening	Dinsmore
9	Spirit Lake Waltz	Simons	210	Son's Return, The	Frits
259	Spring Flowers Polka	Deverant	120	Storm at Sea, Descriptive	Hulalik
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33	Storm Mazurka	Keefer	46	Sweet Love Ago, The	Estabrook
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15	Tornado Galop	Arbuckle	208	There's Sure to be a Way	Delano
103	Trifet's Grand March, op. 182	Wede	192	Thinking of Home and Mother	Colm
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205	Village Parade Quickstep	Allen	62	Your Mother's Love for You	Koppi
7	Visions of Light, Waltz	Cook	252	Warrior Bold	Adams
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261	When the Grass Grows a Perfect gem	Longe	86	Why am I ever Watching	Rondall
9	Woodland Whispers Waltzes	Stanley	212	Why am I ever Watching	deLauide
101	Yacht Waltz	Dinsmore	218	Why do Summer Roses Fade	Barber
305	Zephyr Waltz	Bragg	300	Yellow Roses	Water

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## HOKEY SPOKES.

## A CHARACTERISTIC TWO-STEP MARCH.

ARR. BY HARRY J. LINCOLN.

CHAS. C. SWEeley.

The musical score is written for piano and features a variety of dynamic markings and performance instructions. It includes a 'TRIO' section and a 'DRUMS. ad lib.' section. The score concludes with a 'FINE' marking.

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## Rag Time Music.

A great many writers in referring to the present liking for "rag time" music, express much surprise that it has lasted over a couple of years, and speak of it as being something new. As a matter of fact "rag time" is one of the oldest forms of dance music and is seen at its very best in Scotch music. Take any of their strathspeys, reels, flings, or sword dances, and you will have as pure "rag time" as you find in any of the "coon" songs and dances which have been so very popular. It was a noticeable fact

that when Sousa's band was on its European tour last summer, no music proved more generally popular there than the two-steps and "rag time."

It is always well to remember Poor Richard's maxim, "A penny saved is a penny earned." No better way of saving money can be found than to take advantage of COMFORT'S music offer on another page. In this way you obtain the best sheet music, just such as costs 40 cents and more at stores, for a trifling cost over postage for mailing. Be sure to have your musical friends read the offer.

Lightning presses and new methods have revolutionized the production of music in sheets. The effect is to make low prices. Read the music offer on another page.

One of the hottest regions of the earth is along the Persian Gulf, where little or no rain falls. At Bahrin the arid shore has no fresh water, yet a comparatively numerous population contrives to live there, thanks to copious springs which burst forth from the bottom of the sea. The fresh water is procured by diving.

The diver, sitting in his boat, winds a great goat-skin bag around his left arm, the hand grasping its mouth; then he takes in his right hand a heavy stone, to which is attached a strong line, and thus equipped, he plunges in and quickly reaches the bottom. Instantly opening the bag, over the strong jet of fresh water, he springs up the ascending current, at the same time closing the bag, and is helped aboard. The stone is then hauled up, and the diver, after taking breath, plunges in again. The source of these copious submarine springs is thought to be the green hill of Osman, some five or six hundred miles distant.





BY EVERETT G. WHEELMAN.

**W**HATEVER people may say, interest in the bicycle is as great as ever this summer and more people are riding wheels than in any previous season. Improvements, however, are not as radical as they were a few years ago. The changes were generally in the use of either larger or smaller gauge tubing, lower drop, or change in position or rake of fork. In several instances the motor cycle and motor carriage are in close following to the bicycle—an indication, perhaps, of what one may expect in the near future, when these machines will very likely be found wherever the bicycle is for sale.

It seems that the "bike" has gone to the far east. The first consignment of safety bicycles was brought to Bangkok by Dr. P. T. Carrington, an American dentist, in 1896, writes United States Consul General King to the Department of State. Previous to that time, one or two of these wheels had been imported for private use. There are now in this city between twenty-five hundred and three thousand bicycles. They are to be seen in all parts of the city and are used by all classes. The King of Siam rides an American bicycle of the latest and most improved model, and it is by no means an uncommon thing to see the ministers of the government coming and going to their duties, and even to public functions, on their wheels.

The minister of the interior has systematically encouraged the use of the wheel, believing that its employment will lead to better roads in the city and in the country towns. He is at the head of a large bicycle club that numbers upwards of four hundred members. Among the members are many of the princes and government officials, and in the favorable seasons of the year this club indulges in long runs to the remote parts of the city. These runs are generally held during the cooler portion of the night and wind up in a banquet well towards morning. The crowning endeavor of this club was a grand bicycle pageant, given some months ago in the presence of the king and queen of Siam, and participated in by nearly every prince of the country. The entire affair was a great success.

This city is most favorably adapted to the use of bicycles, the streets being level and fairly well paved in all directions. This is especially true of the streets within the walled city and between the old and new palaces, a distance of some three miles or more. Any pleasant afternoon, when the king or queen takes the favorite ride to the new palace at Dusit Park, several members of the royal household—ladies, gentlemen and children—may be seen accompanying the carriages on their wheels.

The bicycle has come to Siam to stay. It is finding its way into the outlying cities and villages. And as a medium of civilization it is bringing with it better roads and better means of communication. The wet season does not witness the enthusiasm of six months ago, but dealers report a steady sale. The American is by far the favorite in Siam, representing between seventy-five and eighty-five per cent. of all the bicycles used in the kingdom.

In Constantinople they have prohibited racing in the capital. The changeless East has taken rather kindly to the wheel. Even in

Stamboul poured out its motly multitude to see the show. Mussulman and Christian, Greek Jew and Armenian paid their entrance fee and forgot for a space their secular differences as they beheld the competitors fly past. Three times was Pera's Sabbath illumined by this entertainment. The cyclists scorched; the multitude said "bravo!" or "Bismillah!" according to its nationality; and the proprietor of the Palace Hotel secured legitimate gate money. But he had reckoned without the vigilance of the Porte and the fears of the Sultan.

Crowds are not welcome in the neighborhood of the padishah's sacred person. When a number of people are gathered together it becomes a riot, and they make it easier for the caliph's loyal subjects to conspire together, and perhaps to arrange attempts against their sovereign's life. This feeling on the part of the Turkish authorities has acquired fresh energy since the murder of King Humbert, so that they are now living in a fever of suspicion lest some Anarchist or Armenian plot should be attempted against the life of Abdul Hamid. So even the bicycle races were vetoed, and when the fourth Sunday came round there was no "fixtured" meeting having been forbidden by the police.

An automobile on runners would seem to be a queer thing, but one was tried successfully in Massachusetts last winter. The tires of the front wheels of the locomobile were removed, and runners about five feet long were fitted to the rims of the wheels. The rear wheels, giving the motive power, were without runners and revolved as on bare ground, but in the track made by the runners in the snow. It was found that the rig was as easy to steer as when four wheels were used, and it is thought that better speed can be made over a snow surface than with wheels. So that next winter we may see them in common use.

An automobile expert, who has recently returned from a tour through Europe, made with the idea of determining the situation in foreign countries, states that the American-built machines are taking the first rank in England, just as ten or fifteen years ago all American buggies compelled German coach builders to import from the United States until they had time to manufacture carriages after our models. In England most of the machines are gasoline motors imported from France, and are said to be noisy and evil smelling, with more mechanism than a Swiss watch, while electric vehicles are unknown, excepting only those of American make.

## SENT FREE TO WEAK MEN

Charity, the Noblest Impulse of Man, Exemplified by a Well Known Missourian.

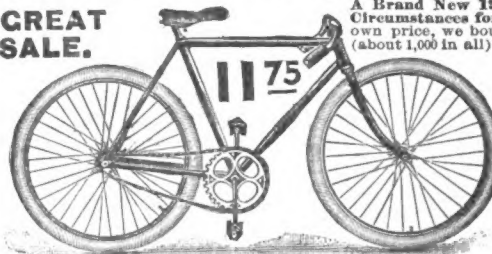
W. S. Harter, an honored and influential citizen of Nevada, Mo., makes a statement and an over-generous offer that comes in the shape of a proclamation of health to all afflicted with lost vitality



and its kindred ailments. His case was a most pitiable one, nightly emissions so draining and his constitution was weakened to such a degree that it was impossible for him to perform his duties. He spent hundreds of dollars for remedies and to specialists, but could not regain his vitality or check the awful nightly emissions. One day a brother lodge member called his attention to a remedy, in fact, implored Mr. Harter to take the remedy for his affliction; he did so, and in one month's time was entirely cured, his constitution rejuvenated and his vitality regained. To-day he is a man in every sense which that word would imply. Mr. Harter is not what one would call an immensely rich man, but his gratitude for this marvelous remedy is so great that he says he intends making his life's labor that of putting this remedy in the hands of all those afflicted as he was. Mr. Harter being a very conscientious man, thought perhaps the remedy may not prove in every case so wonderfully beneficial as it did in his. For this reason he gave fifty sufferers the treatment, and in every instance the same wonderful results were experienced as was in his case; so he now says he will send every sufferer of this death-dealing disease, Lost Manhood, and its kindred ailments, absolutely free the means which directed him to health and contentment. Any reader sending name and address to Mr. W. S. Harter, 232 Ash Street, Nevada, Mo., will receive without delay, and free of charge, this wonderful knowledge.

## \$11.75 BUYS A \$40.00 FAULTLESS BICYCLE

GREAT SALE.



A Brand New 1901 Model, made by the manufacturers to sell for \$40.00. Circumstances forced them to discontinue business. At their own price, we bought for spot cash all of their famous Faultless Bicycles (about 1,000 in all) and offer them for sale until they are all gone at less than 1/2 the regular \$40.00 price. We bought them cheaply, our customers get the benefit.

\$11.75 FOR THE LADIES' BICYCLE. \$12.25 FOR THE MEN'S BICYCLE. Frame made in true diamond shape from 1 1/2 inch Shelby Cold Drawn Seamless Steel Tubing. Strong reinforced single-piece head with heavily nicked crown fork, strong graceful rear forks, tool steel bearings chemically hardened, genuine Faultless ball-bearing hanger, steel tempered cranks, patent chain adjuster, large heavily nicked sprockets in various handsome designs, genuine Faultless 1901 1 1/2 block chain 28-inch wheels, genuine Faultless spokes, Wisconsin rock elm non-warping rims, large ball-bearing tool steel tubular hubs with patent oiling device. Fully equipped with fine up or down turn handle bars, genuine Faultless single-tube pneumatic guaranteed true, ball-bearing pedals, fine padded top full stock saddle and genuine Faultless quick repair outfit, choice of men's 28 or 34-inch and ladies' 26-inch frames, black or maroon color. Guaranteed for one year.

**SEND NO MONEY** but send this Adv., state size of frame and color desired, and we will send this regular \$40.00 Faultless Bicycle by express C. O. D., subject to examination. Examine it at the express office, and pay the express agent our special price \$11.75 and express charges by bicycle as you will be proud to ride. Otherwise tell the agent to return it at our expense. **WRITE FOR FREE BICYCLE CATALOGUE.** **JOHN M. SMYTH CO. WEST MADISON STREET, CHICAGO** 50-166 also 287-289. Please mention COMFORT when you write.



OFFER EXPIRES JULY 31st.

## NINE DOLLARS AND 98 CENTS

net drop head GENUINE DELMAR SEWING MACHINE. You need not send one cent, but cut this ad. out and send to us, and we will send the machine to you by freight C. O. D., subject to examination. Examine it at the express office, and pay the express agent our special price \$9.98 and express charges by railroad station and if found perfectly satisfactory, return it at our expense. **IF YOU SEND \$9.98** with your order you will save \$3 to \$5 cents express charges on return of money to us, (nearly every one sends cash in full). **money any time within three months** if you become dissatisfied for any reason. Every \$9.98 machine guaranteed 20 years. Only 1,200 machines to be sold below cost to build. Only \$9.98. **A Bonanza Chance for Merchants, Dealers and Agents to Stock Up.** **OUR NEW FREE SEWING MACHINE CATALOGUE WILL ASTONISH YOU.** **WRITE FOR IT.** Address, **SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.**

In Paris there are a great number of gasoline cabs and hotel omnibuses, which make a noise like a cotton mill and leave a trail like a polecat, but they are not of the sort that would meet with any degree of public favor here. Some of them are built to look more like carriages and less like a Chinese puzzle turned wrong side out, but the internal mechanism is so complex that when they are turned loose on a rough road something drops every time. The American machines, both electric, steam and gasoline, are so constructed that they will stand almost anything, and it was easy to pick one out almost every time along Piccadilly or in the Bois on account of its handsomer lines and more nearly noiseless running.

## I CURE FITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., N.Y.

**I REVEAL YOUR LIFE COMPLETE** I LOVE, MARRIAGE, BUSINESS and SUCCESS. When to MARRY and when to REMARRY. FORTUNATE & UNFORTUNATE periods of life. With my ADVICE your SUCCESS is assured, and to receive it I will compile and send to you a complete Outline of your future. **PROF. RENFREW, MEDFORD, MASS.**

**ATTRACTIVE YOUNG LADY.** Handsome! Wealthy! Wants to marry a good man. All letters answered. Will send Photo if 10 cents is sent to guarantee safe delivery. Address Miss Josie Stevens, c/o Box W, 536 Chicago, Ill.

## TRUE HAIR-GROWER SENT FREE

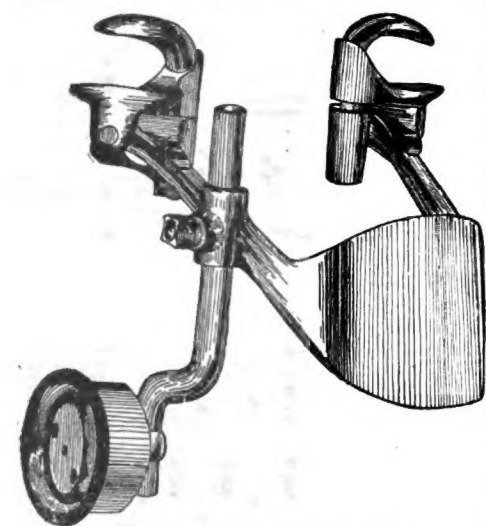
A Remarkable Remedy which cures old standing cases of Baldness. Restores gray hair to its natural color without dyeing, stops hair falling, eradicates dandruff, cures weak eyebrows and eyelashes, scanty partings and all scalp humors, from whatever cause arising.



**FREE!** The price of Lorrimer's Keador Hair Forer is \$1.00 per bottle. Lorrimer's Skin and Scalp Soap 25c. per bar, but we will send a free trial of these grand treatments together with testimonials and full particulars how to cure all hair and scalp troubles and restore gray hair to its natural color without dyeing on receipt of a two-cent stamp to cover postage. Write to-day. Address distinctly, **LORRIMER & CO.,** Dept. 57, 118 N. Foca St., BALTIMORE, MD.

**Get Married** 8000 ladies want to marry. Many rich. Send 2 cts. for photos and big sealed list with addresses and full description. Satisfaction guaranteed. Union Corresponding Club, Box 608, Austin, TX.

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THE BEST AUTOMATIC BRAKE.

China the "foreign devil" who goes out on a machine is no longer liable to be stoned to death by an infuriated mob or hauled before the local Taotia on a charge of offending the gods with his blasphemous inventions. At least one Englishman has ridden right across the Celestial Kingdom without coming to any harm, and Chinese gentlemen have been known to convert their voluminous skirts into "rationals" and themselves bestride the steed of steel. A demand, it appears from a consular report, is springing up for French bicycles among the Hovas of Madagascar, and in many parts of the Dark Continent, from Tangier to the Cape, the untutored African is a keen and diligent cyclist. Even in the Ottoman Empire the vehicle has made some headway. The advanced young Turk, who reads French novels, drinks absinthe and plays billiards, bicycles as becomes a lover of progress, and skims along, not unimpressive, in tweed knickerbockers, black frock coat and red fez.

The ladies have taken to it also. It has been introduced into the best harems, and no really indulgent pacha, who has a sufficiently secluded garden, would deny his wives and daughters the amusement. Such being the case, the proprietor of the Pera Palace Hotel, having taken a lease of the Municipal Gardens, was justified in concluding that a series of Sunday bicycle races would attract the public. The contests were held, three of them, and



## RHEUMATISM IS DEAD!

Long Live OXEN, the King of Remedies that Killed it.

No more infernal tortures, no more roastings of the flesh with red hot irons, no more lightning shocks from the electric battery or dosings with dangerous drugs. **RHEUMATISM HAS BEEN CONQUERED** by Oxien the triumph of medicine, the Godsend of the age. Absolute cures are now certain, and Oxien is making them every day. In this connection

**WE HAVE A WORD TO SAY.** Oxien was last year put to the test as a remedy for Rheumatism and it made a record of absolute cures in Acute Rheumatism, frequently called rheumatic fever, Pericarditis (inflammation of the investing membrane of the heart), Endocarditis (inflammation of the living membrane of the heart), subacute rheumatism, sometimes applied to the less severe attacks of the disease, chronic rheumatism, which swells and twists the joints and sometimes, or neuralgia of the sciatic nerve. In fact Oxien is guaranteed to cure Rheumatism in any form. Thousands jump for joy and many write as follows:

Received OXEN O. K. Found it far superior to what you represent. Have tried everything I could hear of for rheumatism. For ten years I have been crippled up with this terrible disease. Laid in bed one whole year. Could not turn or feed myself and when I was able to walk on crutches (which I did for four years) was crooked and unable to straighten up, but Oxien did it and you can imagine how happy I am now. Yours sincerely, Geo. F. Lovett, Olympia, Wash., Feb. 19, 1901.

**FREE 200,000 BOXES OF RHEUMATISM CURE. FREE.** This amazing rheumatism remedy in the United States and Canada. None but those who will give us their word that they either suffer from rheumatism, or are afraid of it through hereditary tendencies will be considered entitled to free treatment. Therefore, if you want a box free send at once, yes to-day. Write plainly as our clerks are badly rushed. **THE GIANT OXIE CO., Box 1120, Augusta, Maine.**

## Sent Free to Everybody! The COMFORT HAMMOCK.

As a Reward for a little friendly service.

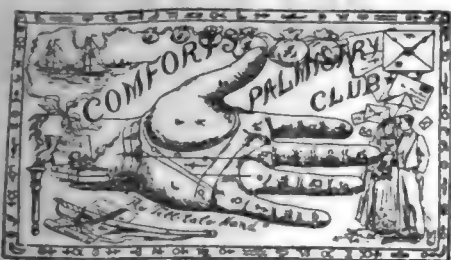
BOYS AND GIRLS:

Here's a happy hint for Summer, And verily it is a "hummer."



The fashion in Hammocks is ever changing. This year we offer you something entirely different than the usual premium hammock, a fine quality, fancy pattern, fish-net cotton, same as is used by fishermen; something substantial and is tested to hold 300 pounds, dead weight, is 10 feet long, over 32 inches wide. Highly colored in red, black, yellow and white. Each Hammock has a pocket in the end of the net for a concealed stretcher, any narrow piece of strong wood can be inserted and will serve the purpose, giving the Hammock a fine finished and inviting appearance. For hot summer days you can have nothing that will afford more pleasure than a quiet hour in a hammock, some shady nook. Now to every one who will get up a club of 3 subscribers for this paper at the special trial price, 25 cents per year each in advance, we will send one of these Hammocks FREE, we paying all express and mailing charges. By showing a copy of this great paper to your neighbors, friends and acquaintances, you can easily get up a club in one evening; for with its many improvements and new original copyrighted departs, you need only get a paper to be seen to be appreciated. To those who do not care to go to the trouble of getting a club we will send our paper for one year, together with one of these Hammocks (all express and mailing charges paid by us), upon receipt of 97 cts. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.





CONDUCTED BY DIGITUS.

## CONDITIONS.

To have one's hands read in this department, by Digitus, one of the finest living palmists, it is necessary to observe the following conditions:

Impressions of both hands must be sent, fully postpaid and having the name, address and name de plume of the sender enclosed in the package also.

The package must in every instance be accompanied by the names and addresses of eight new subscribers at twenty-five cents each, the whole amount, \$2.00 being remitted, with the package, addressed to COMFORT PALMISTRY CLUB, Augusta, Maine.

No notice will be taken of impressions and requests for readings unless the sender has fully complied with the above conditions.

To take impressions, first hold two large pieces of blank paper over a candle or similar flame, until they are heavily coated with the smoke. Then lay these pieces down, smoke side uppermost on a pad of cotton. Now place the two hands, palms downward, one on each sheet of paper, pressing firmly and steadily down, but taking care not to move the hand. Keep them there for one minute and lift carefully, so as not to disturb the impression. Have ready some flat-iron, which can be bought at a drug store or an art store or made with gum arabic and water in an atomizer. Spray this over the impressions before they are moved and allow them to dry. Then they are ready to send.

Smoked paper impressions are the best. But if it is desired to send a plaster cast, take plaster of Paris and dissolve in water to the consistency of thick cream. Pour this into a large shallow dish and when it is hardening place the hand, well-greased, palm downward, in the plaster, pressing downward. Several minutes will be required to get this impression and great care must be taken in removing the hand, not to break the plaster. Casts are exceedingly difficult to send without breaking and should be very carefully packed in a box with the name of the sender written on it. Plaster is sometimes successfully used in place of plaster. A good photograph if sufficiently well taken to bring out all the lines, can also be read, although in all cases the smoked paper is the best, if properly treated with flat-iron.

Bear in Mind that all the above conditions must be observed.

Also, that letters not complying with them will go into the waste-basket. Readings cannot appear for several months after impressions are sent.

**ANCHOR E'** whose hands were read here several years ago asks the following questions which will interest you all.

"I find in Cheiro's 'Language of the Hand,' a mark, which he calls the Tripod, but which should, from Webster's definition, be called the Trident, and which is the sign of Neptune. Now can you tell me what this sign indicates? I find it in my own right hand, as a termination of the Fate line on Mt. Saturn. In a friend's left hand, I see it terminating the Fate line where it intersects the Heart line. Can you tell me what these positions of this sign would indicate?" The mark spoken of is called a tripod by all palmists. Prof. Hargett says it has no meaning at all, and Heron-Allen does not even refer to it anywhere in his book. The ancients did not recognize it and I have yet to discover that it is of any importance.

"I've found two new signs in my right hand—by new, I mean that I never until lately saw them, perhaps I ought to say three instead of two. I've always had a distinct triangle on Jupiter in both hands.

"Lately the one in the right hand has changed, so that two corners of the triangle are stars, and in the left, the triangle is double, like this and then a deep line from Venus runs up to the base of finger of Jupiter and cuts through both. Also in the right, a perfect star, distinct and separate from lines, has recently appeared on the outer edge of Mt. Jupiter, just below base of finger and almost touching the star at upper corner of triangle, but a fine horizontal line is between. Besides, on the percussion of the right about one third the way below heart, I find a new mark like a square. It is very faint yet, of very fine lines. I am more than ever interested in this delightfully fascinating and wonderful science." The star on the Mount of Jupiter is a very lucky sign. A woman who has this sign is pretty sure to make a distinguished and fortunate marriage. The recent appearance of these lines would indicate that such a marriage is in the near future; or if the subject is already married, then some great honor or gratified ambition is soon to reach her. I should not attach much meaning to the new square as yet.

"One other question—is it usual for men to have fewer lines than women? I have found it so. The hands of men, so far as I have observed, are usually much less wrinkled than are those of women."

This is true. Many fine lines are the outcome of a nervous temperament and this, I think, accounts for the fact that women's hands are much more interlined than men's.

She also asks: "Is there some fellow member of the club who would like to correspond with me regarding this study? I have just sent for the course published by 'The Alumbia Scientific Academy,' New York City, and intend to continue this work. I published a little book last year on the subject entitled 'Your Fortune is in Your Hands,' under nom de plume of Anchor English, published by Fred Schwartz, Pub. Co., Phil., Pa." Letters sent to her, care of these publishers would reach this palmistry club-member.

"Ozella L." sends me some good impressions on smoked paper for this month. She has the hand of a nervous, affectionate and artistic type. It is somewhat hollow, which of course, always means trouble. Her life line is well separated from the head line at the start, showing that she is a person of good courage and good ideas with energy and perseverance enough to carry them out. She is a person of great ambition and will succeed to a degree, although all of her ambitions will not be satisfied. She had an early love affair, which

caused her a great deal of worry, but which I think did not amount to a marriage. She will marry at about the age of thirty and a new love will come into her life at forty-five. She is very attractive to men and will receive a great deal of attention throughout her life, but will not marry the man she loves best until she is forty-five or perhaps a little more. A superficial reader would say that her life line is very short, but it looks to me as if her life from the time of this latest and real love would take a new turn from that time henceforth, and that she will travel a great deal from that time on and even in foreign countries, living to be quite an old woman. I think she will see a great deal of life at cross-purposes between the ages of twenty and forty-five, after which she will see a great deal of the world in an entirely new sphere and enjoy herself very much. She may expect to travel a great deal all her life, as both her natural disposition and her outward circumstances will lead her that way. She is of a nervous type, as I said before, and does not take things so philosophically as she ought. This will lead her, if she is not careful, into a habit of worrying over matters which she cannot control and give her many bad headaches. It is necessary for her to cultivate calmness and patience and get good control over herself. She is easily influenced by others, and has a pliant yielding nature. Much the better part of her life will come after the age of forty and she should be very patient and hopeful until then. The early love affair of which I speak, will cause her a great deal of trouble and some sorrow, but she needs to obtain full control over herself so that she need not worry over what she cannot help but look forward to a better time coming by-and-by.

There is a new book out on palmistry which covers ground not hitherto much worked up. Our readers who are interested in marriage as seen on the hand, should send for Hargett's New Discoveries in Palmistry which is issued by the Occidental Publishing Co.

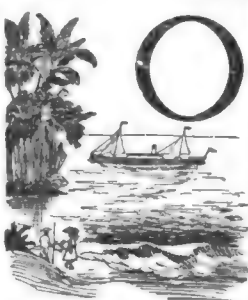
Nearly half its contents are new discoveries; it has two new types of hands; it is the most fully illustrated publication on the subject of palmistry; it excels anything else in its line by orderly and tasteful construction; it explains positive and negative causes and effects, passive and active causes and effects, passive and active prospective effects; and last and most astounding claim of all, is that it shows how one may read in the palm of the hand the record and date of marriage, broken marriages, broken loves and engagements, whether the love or engagement holds good—all relations in love or prospective love. What palmist could go farther than that? According to the professor, it is really only a matter of lines, and he wisely prepares the mind for this great discovery by informing the reader that "The record and date is there whether you get the time right or not." Then he goes on to say: "This record and date is on the life line, and it is always on the life line or on the fate line. In some hands it is on the fate line. On the hands of some subjects it is found in the left, others in the right, then again in both. Sometimes a person has been active in his affections, aggressive in pushing his interests, then it is in the right hand. If it is on the left hand then he has been passive, and some other party has been aggressive spirit. Or if one is active in his purposes, it may be in both hands, especially if he is ardent and the suit is very agreeable. It gives the age at which this strong interest occurred and, if vigorous, whether it is active now, or relaxed, or dead; whether the party is exceedingly anxious about the matter or whether the interest is slack or medium.

"The hand tells the number of these interests, and which party broke the tie or spiritual union, if broken; and often the nature of the relationship, whether sincere, pleasant or welcome to the party in whose hand you find the record; whether it was amorous or discordant; whether it was a holy or noble purpose." Then he shows by engraved plates the marriage lines as they should appear under the different circumstances enumerated; whether they do so appear is a matter for each one to decide for himself after a study of his own hands and the palms of those friends and relations whose matrimonial history he already knows something about.

*Digitus*

## The Blue Grotto.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



two in one boat can enter at the same time and then only by lying at full length on the bottom of the boat.

After getting within the grotto the sea may become rough and tourists have been imprisoned here for twenty-four hours, while the waves dashed over and completely hid the entrance.

The walls, roof and water within this fairy-like place all shimmer like blue satin, and altogether it is the most awe-inspiring place of its size in all the world. It was on this island the villa of Tiberius stood and from the summit of the cliff he had his victims hurled. The Emperor Augustus also made Capri one of his favorite resorts. Few spots are more beautiful or are crowded with more historic memories.

**A** TABLE showing the mineral bearing islands of the Philippines has been forwarded by Admiral Dewey to Prof. Becker of the geological survey. It states that coal, gold, copper, lead, iron, sulphur and marble may be found at Luzon; lead and silver at Marimague; coal, gold and copper at Mindoro; coal at Negroes; coal and copper at Masbete; marble at Romblon;

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YAMNEJU  
LUJU

Can you arrange these six different groups of letters into the names of six (6) of the months of the year? If so you can share in the distribution of the above. We shall give away 6 Fine Upright Pianos and cash amounting to \$600 in Gold among those who enter this contest, and will work for our interest. **READ CAREFULLY. REMEMBER** We do not want one cent of your money when you answer this contest. In making the six names the letters can only be used in their own groups and as many times as they appear in each individual group and no letter can be used which does not appear in its own group. After you have arranged the six groups and formed the six correct names, write them out plainly and send to us and you will receive our reply by return mail. **TRY AND WIN.** If you make the six correct names and send them to us at once who knows but you will get a big cash prize and possibly a Piano. We hope you will and anyhow it costs you nothing to try. Do not delay. Write at once.

## READ WHAT THESE WINNERS SAY:



**MISS HATTIE SIMS,**  
609 Franklin Street, Peoria, Ill.  
WINNER OF  
Grand Up. Piano \$300.00  
Cash Prize, 10.00  
Cash Prize, 5.00  
Cash Prize, 5.00

On receipt of her piano Miss Sims wrote us: "Dear Sirs,—Received my piano today in good condition; am delighted and more than pleased with it as first prize. Many thanks. It is a much nicer piano than I expected. I am very glad I won the first prize." We have other letters from Miss Sims acknowledging receipt of her cash prizes. Also from her cousin, Miss Eva Wonder, of Peoria, Ill., only 15 years old and a student in the Peoria High School, who also won a Grand Upright Piano. She writes: "I write to inform you of the arrival of the Piano. I was highly delighted with it."

**MRS. JOHN JUST,**  
Enfield, N.H.,  
WINNER OF  
Grand Up. Piano \$300.00  
Cash Prize, 300.00  
Cash Prize, 50.00  
Cash Prize, 50.00  
Cash Prize, 2.00

We have several letters from Mrs. Just thanking us for prize. On receiving her last \$300 Cash Prize she writes: "Your letter at hand which brought me your check for \$300.00 again, for which I thank you very heartily. I don't know what I shall do to pay you for what you have done for me in five months' time." About her second piano she writes: "I take great pleasure in writing you that I received this morning my piano in good condition—the second in two months—and it is just as nice and beautiful as the other one was. I thank you a thousand times for it and for your honest treatment. I am very proud that I am so lucky."

**MRS. JOHN LABENZ,**  
5118 Duncan St., Pittsburg, Pa.,  
WINNER OF  
Grand Up. Piano, \$300.00  
Cash Prize, 50.00  
Cash Prize, 25.00

Mrs. Labenz writes: "I received the Piano this A.M. in a good, sound condition. I am very much pleased with it and think it is one of the finest ever made and thank you very much. I wish you would put my name among the list of satisfied prize winners so if any one wants any recommendation I can give it to them as I know your people have treated me fairly and squarely. Again thanking you for the beautiful Piano as first Prize, I remain, etc." Dec. 10 she wrote: "I received your check for \$50.00 and I thank you very much. Thanking you for check and past favors, I remain, etc."

## \$500.00 FORFEIT.

We will forfeit \$500.00 Cash to anyone who can prove that we have not paid all prizes as promised, or that the above testimonials or any of the hundreds in our possession are not genuine. Wood Pub. Co.

monials from those who have won prizes in our various contests, all showing that we always do just as we agree and satisfy all winners. Our patrons have participated in the distribution of over \$36,000.00 Cash Prizes and thousands of dollars worth of Premium Merchandise Prizes. Would you like a part of this \$600.00 or a Fine Upright Piano? If so, see if you cannot solve the puzzle printed above and send us a correct answer. Perhaps it will be easier than you think and you may win a fine prize. Try it. Sit down and study it out at once, send us your solution and we will write you at once whether it is the correct one or not. Now is your chance.

WOOD PUBLISHING CO. Dept. 134, 256 Franklin St. Box 3124, Boston, Mass.

## WHY DON'T YOU TRY?

Besides the prizes named above, there are thousands of other winners have received thousands of useful and valuable prize premiums, including Elegant Upright Pianos, fine English Tea Sets, Silver Services, Silk Waists, Dress Patterns, Silverware, Watches, Cameras, Air Guns, etc., etc. There is no reason why you should not be one of the winners in the present contest. All you have to do is to try. We could show hundreds of other testimonials from those who have won prizes in our various contests, all showing that we always do just as we agree and satisfy all winners. Our patrons have participated in the distribution of over \$36,000.00 Cash Prizes and thousands of dollars worth of Premium Merchandise Prizes. Would you like a part of this \$600.00 or a Fine Upright Piano? If so, see if you cannot solve the puzzle printed above and send us a correct answer. Perhaps it will be easier than you think and you may win a fine prize. Try it. Sit down and study it out at once, send us your solution and we will write you at once whether it is the correct one or not. Now is your chance.

coal and gold at Samar; coal, oil, gas, gold, copper, iron and mercury at Pannay; the same at Cebu. Pearls are found in the Sulu Archipelago.

## PUT ME OFF AT BUFFALO!

If you are not going to the Pan American Exposition this summer we will set you at work in a paying cash business, only 30c. required for a start. If you are interested address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

## A POWERFUL HEALER

**TELLS HOW AND WHY YOU SUFFER.**  
If sick or ailing Give name, age, sex, and one symptom of the disease most, enclose four I will send you a note of your disease outline a course of cure your ailments. Experience, 10,000 Dr. J. C. Batdorf, Dept. 15, Grand Rapids, Mich.

## THEY ARE BEAUTIES.



## FREE! FREE! FREE! FREE!

## ADJUSTABLE RECLINING CHAIR.

This Easy Chair is Full of Durability and Utility.

The style was invented in England many years ago by William Morris, the celebrated London artist. He built it from a knowledge of anatomy. He was also a famous designer of artist furniture. It is therefore called the **Morris Chair**. It is made of the finest Oak and so arranged by a simple device in the back that it can be adjusted to either a lounging or upright position. It is the most useful and popular Easy Chair on the market either in Europe or America to-day. It is finely upholstered and tufted. Every one needs at least one of these Chairs in their home, no matter be it humble or great. They seem to just fit the tired body after a busy day's work, in fact it fits one's every mood. We have ordered many thousands of these Chairs direct from an immense furniture factory and although the Morris Chairs sell at many stores from \$15.00 to \$50.00 each, we are giving these Chairs away as Premiums for selling our Remedies.

## LACE CURTAINS FREE.

Sell only six Electric Plasters at 25c. each, which we trust you will and we will send you a pair of these elegant Nottingham Lace Curtains, each Curtain is nine feet long so you get six yards of Curtains in the pair, and as they are four feet wide for the two, they gather up nicely and furnish an elegant drapery for even the very broad windows; in fact in many instances one pair would do for several windows, and just what anyone needs to adorn the home with. Every one of taste will tell you that there is nothing which "dresses up" a room so much as a pair of lace curtains. The finest effects are obtained by these draperies. They show from the outside as well as from the inside. They are of the real Italian pattern and formerly sold as high as six or eight dollars a pair. They are delivered free to you, all charges paid. Don't fail to send for the six Plasters to-day, as soon as you sell them and send us the \$1.50 you get the curtains and learn all about the Morris Chair inducement. It will surprise you in liberality. We do not give the \$15.00 Chair for selling only \$1.50 worth of goods as some firms profess to do, but we make you the most liberal, honest and straightforward offer ever put out. We are paying our agents over two dollars for selling only one dollar's worth of goods in order to get them advertised. We want to prove there is a sure prevention and cure for **Lame Back, Leg Grips, Coughs, Colds, Pneumonia, Rheumatism, etc., etc.** Send for the six Plasters to-day. Address, THE GIANT PLASTER CO., Box C Augusta, Maine.

## What Some of Our Patrons Say About Our Reliability and Standing.

## A NINE YEARS' TEST.

GALENA, ILLINOIS, Oct. 15th, 1900.  
TO THE GIANT CO., AUGUSTA, MAINE.  
GENTLEMEN: Do you realize I have been selling your remedies for the past nine years? After acting thus as your agent for this long period it is not flattery when I say to you that no business house exists that can surpass your own in honesty and fair dealings—even more, generously to its patrons. Not one far or the slightest cause for complaint is surely evidence beyond question in my nine years' dealings with you. May you live long to enjoy the good you are doing is the wish of  
Yours truly,  
FANNIE AUBUCHON.

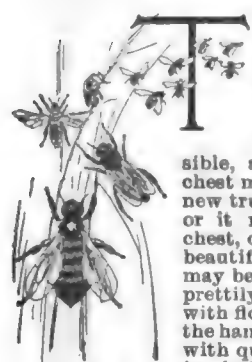
## A TEN YEARS' TEST.

MUNCIE, INDIANA, Oct. 10th, 1900.  
THE GIANT CO.  
GENTLEMEN: After ten years of successful work for you I can truthfully say that you have more than done as you agreed during my long period of selling your famous Orlen Remedies. There has been nothing taken away the joy that came to me from getting my first box of Orlen. As for Premiums I have received so many and such nice ones, too, that I cannot possibly enumerate them. They were all fine and perfectly satisfactory. I consider your firm one of the best in existence and although I have had many flattering offers to work for other concerns, I have always been true to The Giant Orlen Co., for they have been honest and faithful in carrying out their promises to me. Wishing you continued prosperity, I remain,  
Yours truly,  
EMMA E. BRANSON.





WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



THE newest idea for engaged girls is the wedding chest, and even girls who are not engaged are the secret possessors of this sentimental, and at the same time sensible, article. The wedding chest may be a trunk, a fine new trunk of the latest style, or it may be a fine cedar chest, or of carved wood, all beautifully ornamented, or it may be a plain wooden affair prettily covered and lined with flowered chintz. Some of the handsome chests are lined with quilted and scented satin, but sachet bags can be put in any of them for that matter.

The idea is to fill the chest with pretty things to wear or for the furnishing and decoration of a home. One girl is filling hers with dainty lingerie, which she is making herself; another is buying things from time to time, and filling her chest with them. Not alone things to wear, such as gloves, lingerie and dainty hosiery, but pieces of lace, tapestry squares for covering sofa pillows, and handsome table covers.

Another girl is making a fine collection of table linen—napkins, doilies, centerpieces and so on. She already has a number of beautiful pieces of linen and lace, some hemstitched, some embroidered and some with elaborate drawnwork. Pretty lists of china and bric-a-brac go into the chest of another girl, while still another is making a collection of after dinner coffee cups and tiny spoons.

Thus the girls are slowly collecting pretty things and saving them for use in their new homes. As a rule their friends know of the chests and take pleasure in helping fill them, although some of the girls like to feel that everything was bought with their own money, and selected by their own taste. Viewed in any light the idea is a pretty one and full of charming and sensible sentiment.

There is a little light cape for the baby that can be bought in the shops or made at home with the least possible amount of trouble. It is made of a single square of cashmere or fine flannel, which is made into the little cape, shawl-shaped. One point is in the back, the other two coming around in front, while the fourth is gathered up on the top of the baby's head, the point trimmed round and finished with a rosette of baby ribbon. Gather it in at the neck, and there is a little cape and hood, and a pretty one. The little garment is finished inside with a square of silk fitted to the cashmere, and the cape may be finished on the edge with a tiny scallop of embroidery or the lining simply blind-stitched to the edge of the cashmere, which is turned in.

American housewives are now adopting an old English idea that Parisiennes adopted a few seasons ago. It is the ruffled pillow case, with the initial hand embroidered in one corner. Our women have never used these cases before this season, but they seem to have crossed the Atlantic to stay, and who knows but what the "sweet scented lavender" that one always associates with English linen will follow.

An enthusiastic gardener has discovered a



THE GIBSON GIRL.

new way to start her flower seeds. The idea comes originally from a farmer's wife and has had plenty of practical demonstration.

"The very best way to start annuals early," she says, "is to take a dozen large potatoes, cut them in two lengthwise, and with a spoon scoop out the inside, leaving only enough to

hold the rind firmly. There is no waste in this, for you can use the potatoes you know, for the table," says this thrifty housewife.

"When you have them all scooped out, fill the shells with very fine soil. Then sow your seeds according to directions, and stick a tag with its name on each potato with a pin. The potatoes should be kept in plates with a little water in them. Place your seeds on a table in front of a sunny window in a warm room. For a day or two keep them covered with a wet square of muslin. After that keep the wet muslin on them only at night, and if they look dry spray them with an atomizer.

"You will be surprised to see how quickly they will come up. Leave them in the potatoes until they are quite strong, then transplant to boxes or pots, or, if it is late enough, to the open border. I think there is some virtue in the potato itself, or perhaps it is only because the rind keeps the earth moist, but I have found seeds come up more quickly and are stronger in that way than in any other."

Our illustrations show some unique match scratchers. These are so necessary in every room, of every house, that it is with pleasure that we find such useful articles in such pleasing shapes.

The cat is cut out of black sand-paper and smoothly pasted onto a white card. Then a collar of white, white eyes, nose and mouth and black whiskers are painted on in water color, and a ribbon tied at the top for a hanger.

The Gibson girl is not so easily made, but if one has not artistic ability sufficient to draw and paint this girl's head and shoulders and foot, one can be cut out of a copy of *Life*, or other magazine or paper with a good-looking girl in it. Paste the girl so cut smoothly onto a card, and over the skirt paste a piece of black



OLD TOM.

sand-paper cut to fit. Then color the waist a brilliant red, with hat band to match, leaving the tie and stock white.

These are easy things for the children to make,—in fact this cat illustration was made from a scratcher made by a child of eight. One idea will lead to another, and many pleasing pictures may be made by a child with bright ideas,—and as these scratchers are appropriate gifts for both sexes and all ages, a child could do a dozen or two and present to her little and big friends at Christmas time.

**ST. VITUS' DANCE.** Sure Cure. Get Circular. Dr. Fenner, Fredonia, N. Y.

## THE NATURAL BODY BRACE

### CURES

Female Trouble, Prolapse, Internal Pains, Backache, Inflammation Weak Lungs, Headache, Nervousness, Constipation and other ills. No internal attachment; no medicine; no heavy expense; no publicity; nothing objectionable; worn with or without corset; perfectly comfortable. Invaluable to the prospective mother.

Rexburg, Idaho, July 9, 1900.

"I am a living, walking advertisement of the Natural Body Brace. It cured me when all else failed. My ailments were falling womb, backache and general female weakness."

MRS. D. W. CHARLES.

Write today for particulars and illustrated book mailed FREE in plain sealed envelope. Address

The Natural Body Brace Co., Box 27 Salina, Kansas.

**30 DAYS TRIAL FREE**

## FREE RUPTURE CURE!

If ruptured write to Dr. W. S. Rice, C. Main St., Adams, N. Y., and he will send free a trial of his wonderful method. Whether skeptical or not get this free method and try the remarkable invention that cures without pain, danger, operation or detention from work. Write to-day. Don't wait.



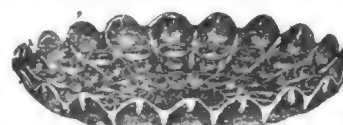
## CHILD LOST

for 18 years. Stolen from the cradle. She was told who and where parents lived by ZEMINDAR, Great Hindu Seer, who foretells correctly all Private Affairs. Health Business. Send stamp for particulars. Box C, 245, Saratoga, N.Y.

**"The Electric Fly Killer," FOUND AT CHAS. STEVENS & CO., Tremont, Ill., for terms and agents outfit by mail prepaid.**

**MARRIAGE PAPER** with addresses and descriptions of pretty girls **HARTS MONTHLY, St. E, Chicago, Ill. FREE**

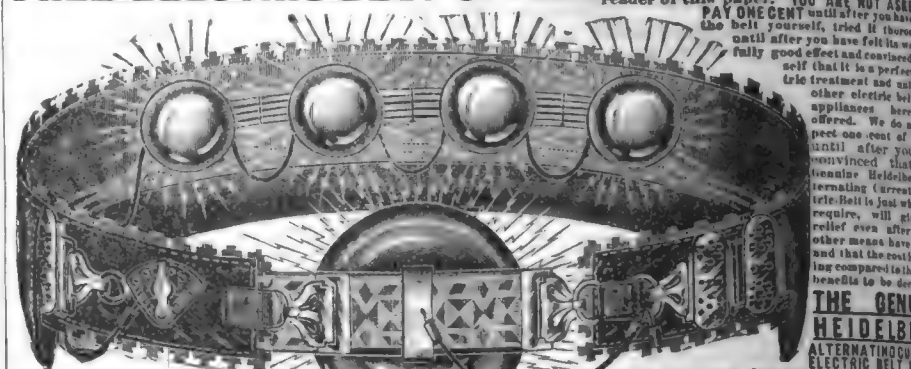
**FREE Catalogue Millinery, Corsets, Shoes, Gloves, etc. Chicago Mail Order Millinery Co., Dept. M, Chicago.**



## DINNER SET FREE

for selling 24 boxes Salvona Soaps or bottles Salvona Perfumes. To introduce our Soaps and Perfumes, we give free to every purchaser of a box or bottle, a beautiful cut glass pattern 10-inch fruit bowl, or choice of many other valuable articles. To the agent who sells 24 boxes we give our 50-piece Dinner Set, full size, handsomely decorated and gilded. We also give Curtains, Couches, Rockers, Parlor Tables, Sewing Machines, Parlor Lamps, Musical Instruments of all kinds and many other premiums for selling Salvona Soaps and Perfumes. We allow you 15 days to deliver goods and collect for them. We give cash commission if desired. No money required. We prepay all freight charges. Illustrated catalogue free. Write to-day. Salvona Soap Co., Dept. 4, St. Louis, Mo.

## FREE ELECTRIC BELT OFFER.



## TEN DAYS' FREE TRIAL

and constitutional weakness it has no equal. For the quick and positive cure of all diseases and disorders that arise from

**IF YOU ARE SUFFERING**

in any way, if your physical condition is not in the highest state of perfection, if you have been unable to obtain relief by means of any other treatment, electric or otherwise, don't fail to cut this ad. out and send to us our Free Electric Belt Catalogue and FREE TRIAL OFFER will be sent to you by return mail.

conditions of the different electric belts we furnish at \$2.00 and upwards, also full particulars of our heretofore unheard of ten days' free trial offer, will be sent free on request to anyone who will apply for it.

**ELECTRIC BELT IS ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEED.** For a weak and

deranged nervous system, the electric belt has splendid results. It stops the

depraved waste, gives tone to every tissue and muscle and the whole body feels

the good effect. Weak men, sufferers from lost manhood, lost vigor, lost

every Heideberg Belt is put out under our binding guarantee.

any electric belt sold at three times the price. Every belt furnished with our new

regulator, by which the current can be adjusted to any strength for any case; com

plete with finest electric sack suspensory (not shown in cut). Our very handsome and

completely illustrated electric belt catalogue containing prices and full descrip

tions of the different electric belts we furnish at \$2.00 and upwards, also full particulars of our heretofore unheard of ten

days' free trial offer, will be sent free on request to anyone who will apply for it.

**SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO**

## \$1000 IN GOLD FREE

FOR  
BRAINY  
PEOPLE

FOR  
BRAINY  
PEOPLE

Each one of the above three lines of figures spells the name of a great city in the United States. This is a

brand new puzzle and can be solved with a little study, as follows: There are twenty-six letters in the alphabet, and

we have used figures in spelling the cities instead of letters. Letter A is number 1, B number 2, C number 3, etc.,

throughout the entire alphabet. IF YOU CAN SPELL OUT THESE THREE CITIES

YOU MAY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF \$1,000 WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY

for doing a little work for us. This you can do in less than 24 hours. You and other most liberal offers are made to introduce one of the very best New York magazines into every home, and

the United States and Canada. WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY. When you have made out the names of these three cities, write them plainly on a postal card and send it to us, and you

will hear from us promptly BY RETURN MAIL. It may take an entire evening to solve the three names, but

STICK TO IT AND TRY TO GET YOUR SHARE OF THE \$1,000. A copy of this high-class ONE DOLLAR MAGAZINE WILL BE SENT FREE TO EVERYONE

answering this advertisement. Do not delay. Send your answer immediately. WE INTEND TO GIVE

AWAY VAST SUMS OF MONEY in the future, just as we have done in the past, to advertise our

CHARMING MAGAZINE. We find it is the very best advertising we can get to give away LARGE

SUMS OF GOLD FREE. Here are the names and addresses of a few people we have recently awarded

FREE GOLD PRIZES: Mrs. J. M. Lachlin, 23d St., Pittsburg, Pa., \$130.00; Mr. O. F. Ackerman,

Hill, N. H., \$125.00; Mr. Fred Pease, 136 Atkinson St., Rochester, N. Y., \$125.00; Mr. George Corbett,

Five Islands, Nova Scotia, Canada, \$80.00; H. C. Hare, 49 Wisconsin Ave., Columbus, O., \$175.00; Miss

Martha Gregory, 3 Park St., Norwalk, Conn., \$105.00; Mrs. John Just, Box 7, Enfield, N. H., \$100.00. We

could go on and point hundreds of names of people who have gained large sums of money from our contests, but

only give a few names, as we desire the space to tell you all about THIS SPECIAL \$1,000.00 IN

GOLD FREE OFFER. The above solution can be worked out by an alert and clever person, and the

reward is so handsome that it will amply pay you to TRY AND SPELL OUT THESE THREE

CITIES. Brains and energy nowadays are winning many Golden Prizes. Study it very carefully and let us see

if you are clever and smart enough to spell out the Three Cities. WE HAVE THE \$1,000.00 IN

GOLD. Have you the brains and energy? If you can make out the names of the three cities, send them to us

without one cent of money. Remember, this is our \$1,000.00 in Gold Free Distribution, and we don't want you to

send any money. When we say FREE, we mean PERFECTLY FREE. We would rather take this way

of advertising our excellent magazine than spending many thousands of dollars in other foolish ways. We freely

and cheerfully give the money away. We do not care who wins. TO PLEASE OUR READERS IS OUR DELIGHT.

The question is, can you solve the above unique proposition? If you can do so write the names of the three cities and your full address plainly in a letter and mail it to us, and

you will hear from us promptly by return mail. Money is a nice thing to have because there are so many useful

uses we can put it to. By a little extra effort someone will get the money we give away. Some lazy and foolish

people often neglect these grand golden free offers we make, and then wonder and complain about their bad

luck. There are always plenty of good opportunities for clever, brainy people who are always alert and ready to

grasp a real good thing. We have built up our enormous business by being alert and liberal in our GRAND

GOLD FREE DISTRIBUTIONS. We are continually offering our readers RARE AND UNUSUAL

prizes. This special contest we consider one of the greatest offers ever made. Do not delay in giving this matter

your immediate attention, and if you can spell out the three cities send your answer at once. \$1,000.00 REWARD

will be paid to anyone who can prove that, in the many Free Cash Contests we have conducted in the past years,

we did not do exactly as we agreed. We have a big capital and anyone can easily ascertain about our strong

financial condition. To pay out these big gold cash prizes is always a pleasure to us. We intend to have the

largest circulation of our high-class one dollar magazine in the world. In this progressive age publishers and

they must be liberal in giving away prizes of great sums of money. It is the only successful way to get your

magazine talked about. For instance, if you should solve the peculiar way we have of spelling the names

of the three cities, and we should hand you a large sum of money as a free prize, you would never stop talking

about our magazine, now would you? We POSITIVELY CLAIM that the above three lines of figures, by

our plan, do actually spell the names of three cities, and that a clever, brainy person who can think and will

patiently endeavor to solve how it is done will be amply rewarded by sharing in our \$1,000.00 in Gold Free Offer.

Of course, if you are easily discouraged and are not patient and are not willing to spare an hour or so in trying to

work out the solution, you certainly cannot expect to win. This advertisement was not written for drones or

idlers who are not willing to give a liberal use of their time. We expect the reader to do some work and give

it the time and attention it deserves. USE YOUR BRAINS. If you are successful in solving it, well and

good. Write the names of the three cities and send them to us, and we will be just as much pleased as you are

We really desire someone to be successful, and as it does not cost you one cent to solve and answer this splendid

Free Money Offer, it will be very foolish for you to pass it by. In all fairness give it some of your leisure time.

SUCCESS IS FOR ENERGETIC AND THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE, and the cause of

FAILURE IS LACK OF INTEREST AND LAZINESS. So, dear reader, do not pass this ad

advertisement without trying hard to make A SOLUTION OF THE THREE LINES OF FIGURES

PRINTED ABOVE. We would suggest that you carefully read this offer several times before you give up

the idea of solving the puzzle. The harder it seems the more patience and determination you should have. Test

age and Determination Win Many of the PRIZES OF LIFE. Your share in OUR FREE MONEY

DISTRIBUTION depends entirely upon your own energy and brains. Don't waste a moment in TRYING

TO SOLVE THIS PERPLEXING PUZZLE. Many of the people we have recently sent large sums

of money to in our Free Money Distributions write us kind and grateful letters profusely thanking us for our

prompt and honest dealings, and saying that if we had not so strongly urged them to try and win they would not

have been successful and would not have been the happy recipients of a large sum of money for only a few

hours' effort. It always pays to give attention to our grand and liberal offers. OUR BIG CASH PRIZES

have gladdened the hearts of many persons who needed the money. If you need money you will give attention

to this special offer this very minute. If you can solve it, write us immediately. DON'T DELAY.

Address ROBINSON PUBLISHING CO., 24 North William Street, New York City.



## FREE Silver Spoons.

We will deliver free, all charges paid, one-half dozen elegant silver-plated Tea Spoons of the latest design, to any one who will send us one new yearly 25c. subscriber to *COMFORT* within thirty days. These Spoons are warranted extra quality and the style and workmanship is of the best. If you have not time to get the new subscriber send in a renewal for yourself or have the paper sent to a friend. You can sell the Spoons for a good price. We got a very large lot of them to close an old account and we offer at the bargain to our subscribers as long as they last, so you better send your 25c. subscription today if you want a bonanza surprise, as they will not be offered in any other manner and we are anxious to increase our subscription list this month just one hundred thousand. Address

COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.





CONDUCTED BY AUNT SARAH.

**W**E are reminded by a constant reader that it is a long time since we have given any recipes for cake, so we will devote our space this month to some good recipes for cake and dainty desserts, trusting that other readers will be as well pleased with the cake recipes. Right here let me say that if there is anything special that readers want recipes for,—I mean, of course, recipes not too much out of the ordinary,—

Aunt Sarah will do her best to find and submit same upon request.

## WEBSTER CAKE.

Cream 1-2 cup butter, add gradually 1 cup sugar, the yolks of 3 eggs well beaten, 1-2 cup milk, 1-3-4 cups flour mixed and sifted with 2-1-2 teaspoons baking powder and the whites of 3 eggs beaten stiff. To a trifle less than 1-2 the mixture add 1-3 cup walnut meat broken in pieces, 1-3 cup raisins seeded and cut in pieces, 1-3 cup figs finely chopped, 2 tablespoons molasses, 1-4 teaspoon each of mace and nutmeg, 1-2 teaspoon cinnamon, 1-8 teaspoon salt and 1-1-2 tablespoons flour. Flavor with 1 tablespoon brandy or wine. Arrange in a deep pan and bake in a slow oven 1 hour. Cover with maple sugar frosting.

## MAPLE SUGAR FROSTING.

Break a pound of soft maple sugar in pieces, add 1-2 cup boiling water and let boil until mixture will thread when dropped from tip of spoon. Pour syrup gradually onto the whites of 2 eggs beaten stiff, and continue beating until mixture is stiff enough to spread.

## LITTLETON CAKE.

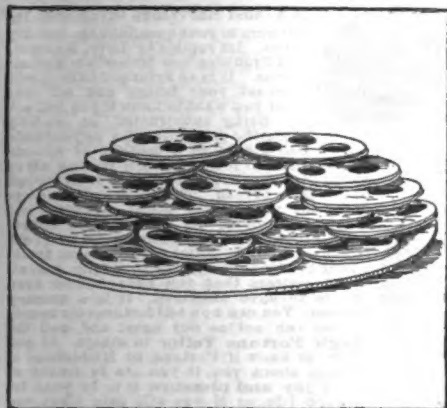
Cream 1-2 cup butter, add gradually 1 cup sugar, 2 eggs well beaten, 1-2 cup milk, 1 square chocolate dissolved in 1-2 cup coffee infusion, and 2-1-3 cups flour mixed and sifted with 2-1-2 teaspoons baking powder. Bake in layers and put together, and on top chocolate frosting. Sprinkle with finely-chopped almonds.

## CHOCOLATE FROSTING.

Melt 2 squares Baker's chocolate, add 1-4 cup boiling water, a few grains salt, and confectioner's sugar to make of proper consistency to spread. Add 1-2 teaspoon vanilla.

## JELLY JUMBLES.

Cream 1-2 cup butter, add gradually 1 cup sugar, 1 egg well beaten, 1-2 teaspoon soda dissolved in 1-2 cup sour milk, 1-4 teaspoon salt, and flour to make a soft dough. Chill, shape with a round cutter and on one-half the pieces



JELLY JUMBLES.

put currant jelly; in the remaining pieces cut 3 small openings. Put pieces together, press edges slightly and bake in a rather hot oven, that jumbles may keep in good shape.

## DELMONICO GINGERBREAD.

Boil 1-2 cup butter, 1 cup molasses, and 3-4 tablespoon ginger 10 minutes; then add 1-2 cup flour, and stir until smooth. Spread mixture on a pan inverted and buttered, and bake in a moderate oven. Cut in squares and remove from pan.

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS OLD.

Rub 2 pounds of butter into 5 pounds of flour. Add 1 pound of sugar, then 3 gills of distillery yeast, 1 pint of milk, 4 eggs well beaten, a gill (half a cup) of wine, and another pint of milk. Beat well, and let stand to rise all night. In the morning add a gill of brandy, another pound of sugar, and half an ounce of nutmegs. Let rise until very light, then put into the pans alternately with a sprinkling of a pound, each, of currants and seeded raisins. A pound of citron, cut fine, may also be added. Use one cake of compressed yeast or one dry yeast cake, softened in a cup of lukewarm water, when distillery yeast is not procurable.

## CREAM SPONGE CAKE.

Beat the yolks of 4 eggs until light. Add gradually 1 cup of sugar, and, alternately, half a cup of double cream and 2 cups of flour sifted with half a teaspoonful of soda and 2 level teaspoonfuls of cream of tartar. Add a grating of lemon rind and the stiff-beaten whites of the eggs. Bake in a loaf about forty minutes.

## YORKSHIRE PUDDING.

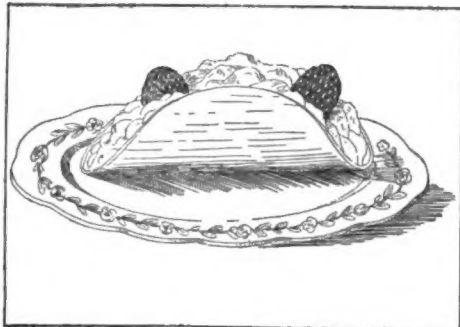
Sift together half a teaspoonful of salt and one cup and a half of pastry flour. Stir in gradually one cup and a half of milk so as to

form a smooth batter. Then add 3 eggs beaten, without separating, until thick and light, and turn into a hot gem-pan, after brushing the inside with the dripping from roast beef. Bake nearly half an hour. After the pudding is well risen, baste with the fat from the roast beef. Serve around the roast. Set the gem-pan into a dripping-pan before basting. The pudding may also be baked in a small dripping-pan, and cut in squares for serving.

## STRAWBERRY BASKETS.

Cream 1-4 cup butter, add gradually 1-4 cup sugar, 1 egg slightly beaten, 2-1-2 ounces flour and 1-4 teaspoon vanilla. Bake, shape and fill with whipped cream sweetened and flavored, and strawberries. Serve at once.

A slight description of the above recipe is necessary. When the ingredients are mixed, roll out very thin and cut with a round cutter about 4 inches in diameter. As soon as taken from the oven, and while yet warm,—roll 2 sides up so as to form a sort of boat, and set them close together in a dish, to hold them in that shape until they are cool and hardened. Then prepare the filling by cutting the strawberries, sweeten with powdered sugar and mix with thick whipped cream. Fill the baskets, and place a whole strawberry on either end,—as shown in illustration. Do not fill the baskets until time to serve, as the cream softens



STRAWBERRY BASKET.

the pastry, if allowed to stand, and the baskets will lose their shape.

Here is probably the oldest recipe in the world for fish chowder, and is given in rhyme:—

To make a good chowder and have it quite nice,  
Dispense with sweet marjoram, parsley and spice;  
Mace, pepper and salt are now wanted alone,  
To make the stew eat well and stick to the bone.  
Some pork is sliced thin and put into the pot;  
Some say you must turn it, some say you must not;  
And when it is brown, take it out of the fat,  
And add it again when you add this and that.  
A layer of potatoes, sliced a quarter inch thick,  
Should be placed in the bottom to make it eat slick;

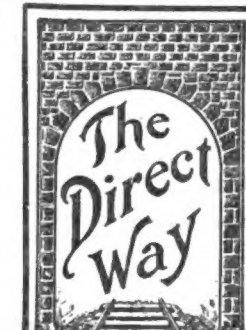
A layer of onions now over this place,  
Then season with pepper and salt and some mace.  
Split open your crackers and give them a soak,  
In eating you'll find this the cream of the joke.  
On top of all this, now comply with my wish,  
And put in large chunks of your pieces of fish;  
Then put on the pieces of pork you have fried,  
I mean those from which all the fat has been tried.  
In seasoning, I pray don't spare the cayenne,  
'Tis this makes it fit to be eaten by men.  
After adding these things in regular rotation,  
You'll have a dish fit for the best of the nation.

## EVERY LADY READ THIS.

I will send free a positive cure for all female diseases, irregularities, etc. A simple home treatment, a common sense remedy that never fails. FREE with valuable advice. MRS. L. D. HUDNUT, South Bend, Ind.

Women who suffer with ailments peculiar to their sex, from stooping shoulders, weak back and general ill-health, or lack of strength and vitality, will be interested in the advertisement of The Natural Body Brace in another column. Husbands and friends of such women will be interested in it also. The company's high standing and pleasing business methods are vouched for by the leading banks throughout the country and by many thousands of customers. Satisfaction is guaranteed by the fact that the full purchase price is refunded to any one not pleased after 30 days' trial. The Brace is comfortable and invigorating. It brings light step, graceful figure and good health. It enables a weakly woman to walk, work, ride a wheel or play tennis or golf with ease and pleasure. It is free from all the objectionable features of other supports and treatments. It does away with pessaries. We suggest that you read the advertisement and write at once for free book and full particulars.

The oldest regular newspaper published in England was established by Nathaniel Butler in 1562.



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Our new free circular points out the direct way to a well-paid place in Civil, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, or Architecture. Qualify yourself quickly for a position where you can earn while you learn. We also teach by mail Steam Engineering; Drawing; Chemistry; Telegraphy; Teaching; Stenography; Book-keeping; English Branches. When writing state subject in which interested.

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Box 1190, Scranton, Pa.  
Established 1891. Capital \$1,500,000.

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Gold, Silver, Nickel and Metal Plating. At home or traveling, using and selling Prof. Gray's Machines. Plates Watches, Jewelry, Tableware, Bicycles, and all metal goods. No experience. Heavy plate. Modern methods. No toys. We do plating, make outfits, all sizes. Complete, all tools, fashions, materials, etc., ready for work. The Royal, new dipping process, quick and easy. Write today. Pamphlet, samples, etc., FREE. F. GRAY & CO., Plating Works, CINCINNATI, OHIO.



## AGENTS Send 6c postage for

best quality tin. One turn of flat thin knife cuts loose a perfect cake. Simple and durable. We are the largest manufacturers of Aluminum, Granite and Tin Ware in U. S. Dept. X. HOUSEHOLD NOVELTY WORKS, 25 Randolph St., Chicago, Ill. or New York, Buffalo, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Seattle. This Co. is worth a Million Dollars and is reliable.—Ed.

## How to Quit Tobacco.

A new discovery odorless and tasteless, that Ladies can give in coffee or any kind of food, quickly curing the patient without his knowledge. Anyone can have a free trial package by addressing Rogers Drug and Chemical Co., 2245 Fifth and Race Sts., Cincinnati, Ohio.

THE NEW DUST PAN.—Rapid seller. Exclusive territory. Write for large catalogue. 50 other fast sellers, and how to get Sample Outfit Free. RICHARDSON MFG. CO., C. St., Bath, N. Y.

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# CURED BY A MIGHTY POWER!

The Secret of the Soul, Combined With Magnetic Medicines, the Mightiest Power Known, Cures So-Called Incurable Diseases.

## DIAGNOSIS, FULL INSTRUCTIONS AND A GRAND BOOK FREE

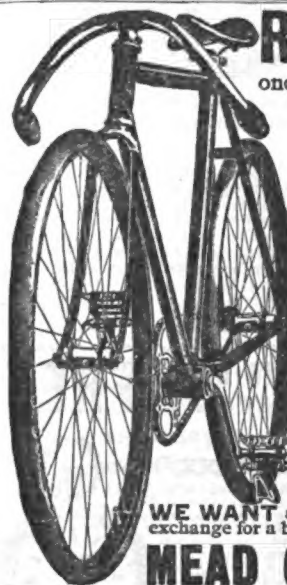


DR. J. M. PEEBLES.

The phenomenal cures made by Dr. J. M. Peebles, the eminent scientist of Battle Creek, Mich., have astonished physicians and scientists throughout the world, for in a marvelous manner he **DISPELS ALL DISEASES** and gives permanent health, vigor and strength to all who desire it. His work is indeed blessed and wonderful. His power comes from the fact that he has discovered the secret of the soul, which he terms **PSYCHIC**; this he combines with magnetic medicines prepared in his own laboratory, making the strongest healing combination known to the world. This wonderful man has so perfected his method that it now reaches all classes of people, for it **ANNIHILATES SPACE** and cures patients at a distance in the privacy of their own homes without the knowledge of anyone. If you are in any way sick and will write to Dr. J. M. Peebles, telling him your leading symptoms, he will through his psychic power **diagnose your case** and send you **full instructions free of any charge**; no matter what your disease or how despondent you may feel, there is hope for you. Hundreds of women who suffer the many irregularities common to their sex, have been cured through Dr. Peebles' method after they had been told their cases were incurable. The same can be said of men who were debilitated from early indiscretions. Indigestion, stomach troubles, catarrh, weaknesses of all kinds, and in fact all diseases **succumb to this wonderful man's method of healing**. Remember, it makes no difference how hopeless your case may seem, or how many have pronounced it incurable, Dr. Peebles can help you, and it **COSTS YOU ABSOLUTELY NOTHING** to receive his diagnosis and instructions. He also sends you **FREE OF ANY CHARGE**, his grand book which will be of invaluable service to you. You also receive a long list of testimonials proving beyond a doubt that his method is revolutionizing the art of **HEALING** the sick and despondent. Address Dr. J. M. Peebles, Dept. J, Battle Creek, Mich. **REMEMBER, it costs you nothing.**

## DESPAIR NOT, THERE IS STILL HOPE FOR YOU!

**Dr. J. M. PEEBLES WILL TEACH THE PSYCHIC SCIENCE** by mail, through which you are taught Psychic and Magnetic Healing, also Occult Powers, which will give you success in life. Full information regarding lessons and literature on this Grand Science, will be sent **FREE** to all addressing **DR. J. M. PEEBLES, Department J, Battle Creek, Mich.**



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one in each town to ride and exhibit a sample 1901 model bicycle of our manufacture. YOU CAN MAKE \$10 TO \$50 A WEEK besides having a wheel to ride for yourself.

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WE WANT a reliable person in each town to distribute catalogues for us in exchange for a bicycle. Write today for free catalogue and our special offer.

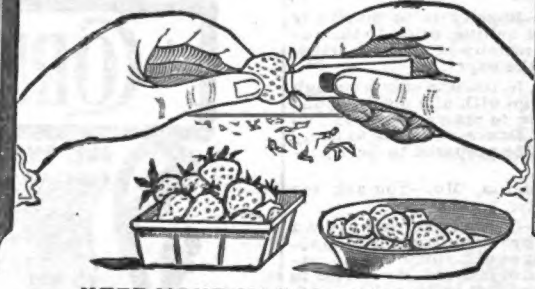
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## NEW FRUIT HULLER.

PERFECTION AT LAST.

YOU PRESS THE HANDLE. IT TAKES THE HULL QUICKER AND NEATER THAN BY HAND.

PATENT PENDING.



KEEP YOUR HANDS CLEAN.

## OUR STRAWBERRY HULLER

hulls Strawberries, Gooseberries, Black Currants, etc., and picks out Basting Thread and Stitches. Has place for thumb and forefinger; doesn't slip or fill up. A simple little thing, saving Time (most essential thing to housekeepers), Temper, Stained and Sore Fingers. Will not crush ripest fruit. Takes out soft and green spots, leaving berries clean, neat, and clear cut, making them look fifty per cent better in the dish, and makes you wonder why it was not thought of before. With one you can do the work twice as quickly, and without any of the usual unpleasant features of this work. Every lady who tries this **once** in the berry season will never be without it again, or allow her friends to hull berries with fingers. One trial only is needed. Housekeepers write, "Could not get along now without it." They are brightly nickel-plated and ornamental. Splendid side line. A day's supply goes in your pocket. We deliver all goods so your profit is clear. Send 6 cents for 3 months' trial subscription to this paper and a sample Huller. Send 18c. for a 6 months' subscription and one-half dozen Hullers, or a year's subscription and one dozen Hullers, 80c. In large quantities, three dozen 85c, six dozen \$1.65, a whole gross 144, \$3.25, sell for \$14.40. **Big Profits.** Now is the time.

Address **NATIONAL FARMER, Augusta, Maine.**





## TALKS WITH GIRLS.

CONDUCTED BY  
COUSIN MARION.

Now come the sweet June roses, dears, and may their fragrance be, to each and every one of you, a fact and memory. With this little poetic greeting I shall content myself and get right to work on the pile of your letters before me.

The first one I take up is from Cousin Pansy of Lorne, Va., who wants to know what a pina skirt and some small rubies are worth. Nobody can answer a question like that but a dealer in such things, and I suppose the nearest one to her is in Richmond.

D. V. V., Stanford, Mo.—Act as if you did not care for him. If there is a way to win a man, that is the only one I know of. (2) Better obey your parents in love affairs until you are past twenty-one. (3) It is the lady's place to ask a third person to join her party.

Louise, Granite Mountain, Texas.—Can't the young man pay for his own lunch, or bring it with him? He ought to. (2) Did you ever hear anybody in his right mind say, "the girls were coming"? (3) A gentleman always looks out for the lady's comfort first. (4) Never heard of the author you ask for.

Brown Eyed Twins, Macomb, Ills.—Yes, a young man may call again though not invited. (2) Ask him in after church, if not too late. (3) No, don't talk to young "gentlemen friends" over the telephone, except when necessary. (4) A man should not call oftener than once a week unless he is seriously inclined.

Sweet Briar, Agnew, Neb.—Queen Victoria's last name was generally supposed to be Wettin.

N. S. D., Florala, Ala.—It is quite proper for a seventeen year old girl to go to a night meeting with her brother and a young man of twenty-five. It will be better to wait four years or three, at least, before marrying the twenty-five year old man; better for you and better for him.

Butter Cup, Wiggins, Miss.—Girls should not receive company before they are eighteen or nineteen, and should not marry before twenty-one. "Sweet Sixteen" is silly. (2-3) Wait four or five years and I will answer these questions. In the mean time think about something else than "boys" and "hearts" and "love".

Three Friends, Washougal, Wash.—It is undignified for a girl to take a man's hat from him and put it on herself. Most of the other questions you ask can be answered the same way. I don't know the poetry you quote, nor the author.

E. P. C. Aurora, Neb.—Yes, you may change numbers to avoid being next to a man you do not like. (2) I suppose boys and girls may go home from school together. (3) Girls should not paint, and only powder so far as with some simple thing that is cooling and clean. (4) The man may help the lady on or off with her rubbers. (5) Your first duty is to the man who took you to the entertainment.

Violet, Madison, Wis.—Unless you know the doctor very well, don't call on him unless accompanied by a chaperon. (2) The man should write first, though that is not necessary. (3) Wear something rather more pronounced than light blue. Pink might be becoming to the fair complexion, but hardly to the dark red hair. (4) The shyness you speak of can only be overcome by practice and experience. Forget yourself. There is no definite rule. You must do the best you can. (5) I see nothing wrong in "too fat". (6) Ask the town librarian for a list of girls' books.

Constant Reader, Swallows' Nook, Kans.—The lady may offer her escort a boutonniere. (2) Ladies do not hold men's hats during the evening at the theatre. They hold their own, however, and not on their heads, either. As to helping a man with his overcoat that is entirely with the lady. Most men are able to put on their own overcoats.

Gray Eyes, Ocala, Va.—I know of no such places as you inquire for.

Iris, Stephens City, Va.—Write to Postmaster, Richmond, inclosing return postage, for address of painted china dealers. You will have to find your own editors to buy stories and sketches, etc. Nobody knows where they are.

Florence, Iowa Falls, Iowa.—The man should have no right to treat a lady so, but you deserve it. (2) Don't ask men to call till you know who they are. (3) Let the young man know what you don't like about him. Better now than after you have married him.

Dew Drop, Kedron, Minn.—You have a right to choose your own company. (2) You are most too young to be writing to a man, even your old school teacher. (3) Girls ought to know how to do as many useful things as possible. (4) Make fun of the sentimental youngster and let him get offended if he wants to. (5) The novels you mention are harmless, if not taken to excess.

Marion, Madison, Ind.—Royalty is so much per cent—ten usually—of the selling price to the author. (2) The publisher usually selects the artist. (3) Write on one side of the paper.

Clare and Ada, Edgeley, N. D.—One man is enough to write to. (2) She may go with him until the one comes whom she is going to marry. (3) Don't go wheeling after dark. (4) Dance with him as many times as you want to, but be prepared to hear people talk.

Ruth and Rolla, Ellington, Mo.—You ask too many questions.

Hopeful, Hebron, Neb.—There is no way to get a book published except by submitting it to publishers. (2) The acceptance of a story by one paper blocks it from others, of course. My advice to you is to stop writing and put in your time reading standard prose and poetry. You need that more than what you ask for. Also learn to spell. Try the verses on your local newspaper.

Edyth, Farmington, Ills.—Quite proper to acknowledge receipt of commencement card, and no harm if a correspondence ensue. (2) Sixteen is rather too young for a tailor made suit.

Rosebud, Liberty, Ind.—Better not go "bugy ridin'", but stay at home and learn to spell.

Jolly Chums, Sac City, Ia.—Yes, go home from church with the man who didn't take you there. (2) Your friend being sponsor for the stranger makes him all right. (3) Compliments on form and fit of dress had better be avoided.

Loydina, Frankfort, Pa.—Yes, but she should tell him to wait till she is twenty. (2) Ask her mother, that's all. (3) Pink is good enough. (4) The man should not walk between the ladies.

Opal, Cross Roads, W. Va.—Nineteen year old girls should not marry without parents' consent. (2) One month is as good as another to marry in,

and one day in the week as good as another, but I think Tuesdays in June seem to be the most popular.

C. H. and C. W., Trenton, Neb.—Wait a minute, children, until you are older.

Tottie, Middletown, N. Y.—Bright red writing paper in my opinion is not in good taste. (2) It is not customary to ask young men to drive with young women or to go to places with them, but it is often done.

Little Sallie, Lokota, N. D.—Agate is the birthstone of June. (2) Ask your physician about the bad breath. (3) Never marry a drunkard because you love him, nor a rich man because you do not. Die an old maid first. (3) Obey your parents.

L., Hebron, Minn.—It is illegal for cousins to marry. In other words you cannot marry your cousin. (2) Introduce by saying: "May I introduce (or present) Mr. So-and-so." (3) Thank you, I shall be glad to go.

Now, my dears, your questions are answered or otherwise disposed of, and let us all try to be happy until we meet again. By, by.

COUSIN MARION.

## DISCOVERED BY A WOMAN.

I have discovered a positive cure for all female diseases and the piles. It never fails to cure any of the various diseases peculiar to women, such as leucorrhoea, displacements, ulceration, granulation, etc., or the piles from any cause or in either sex. I will gladly mail a box of this wonderful medicine free to every sufferer. Mrs. C. B. MILLER, Box 106, Kokomo, Ind.

## HOW TO BUY.

In purchasing, the buyer should in all cases ascertain the character and general reputation of the merchant, and patronize those only whose reputation for general integrity has been acquired by a perfect knowledge of the character of the goods they sell and general fair dealing in selling them.

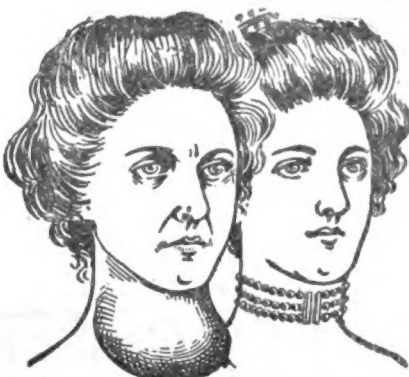
The Von Mohl Company, of Cincinnati, O., (see advertisement on page 15 of this issue) are now the largest and richest importers of preparations for special diseases in the United States, and their large and successful business is solely due to honesty and fair dealing.

The financial and mercantile character of this firm has never been questioned.

## THESE WARM DAYS

You are cooking with an Oil Stove. For the best results, most heat and no odor use Carbon wicks. Millions in use at hotels and restaurants. Any width from 1 1/2 to 5 inches, 10c. for a sample. Last all summer. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.

Gas was first used for street lighting in the United States in Baltimore.

Cures  
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Mrs. Lillian Brown, who was entirely cured of Goitre after suffering for 22 years.

A remarkable discovery has been made that cures this dangerous and disfiguring disease without pain, operation, or inconvenience.

Dr. Haig sends a free trial package of his discovery so that patients may try and know positively that Goitre can be cured at home without pain, danger, operation or any inconvenience. Send your name and address to Dr. John P. Haig, 1988 Glenn Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, and he will forward the free trial package prepaid by mail. Write today.

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For One Day's Work

Fully Guaranteed.  
We send this Nickel-plated Watch also a chain and charm, to Boys & Girls for selling 1/2 dozen packages of BLUINE at 10c each. Send your full address by return post, and we will forward the Blaine, postpaid, and a large Premium List. No Money Required. We send the Blaine at our own risk. Send us the money that you get for it, and we send you the Watch, Chain and Charm postpaid. WE TRUST YOU.  
THE BLUINE MAN, Box 418, Concord Junction, Mass.  
The Old Reliable firm who sell honest goods and give valuable premiums.

Marriage PAPER FREE, many very rich. EASTERN AGENCY 54, Bridgeport, Ct.

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WE WILL SHIP A PIANO OR ORGAN ANYWHERE upon the distinct understanding that if it is not entirely



MONTHS USE WE WILL TAKE IT BACK AND REFUND THE PURCHASE MONEY AND FREIGHT CHARGES both ways, together with interest at the rate of 6 per cent. This unique method of selling Pianos and Organs has attracted world-wide attention. It has brought us sales from every part of the earth; over a quarter of a million satisfied purchasers prove the public appreciate the Cornish plan of business. We sell exclusively to the general public; all agents, middlemen's and dealers' profits are saved to the purchaser of the Cornish Piano and Organ; this means from 25 to 50 per cent.

THE CORNISH PIANOS & ORGANS ARE UNEQUALLED in tone and appearance; in fact there are no more beautiful instruments manufactured in this country; purchasers have the benefit of fifty years of practical experience in piano and organ building. Every Piano is fitted with the new Cornish Musical Attachment; this can be had with the Cornish Piano only; it is our exclusive patent; every Cornish Organ is fitted with our Orchestral Action pronounced to be the finest combination of action in the world.

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A marvellously beautiful New Souvenir has just been issued by us that transcends any other catalogue ever designed. It must be seen to realize what a perfect production it is. It is a veritable triumph of 20th Century printing in color. All new styles accurately depicted—worth its weight in gold. SOUVENIR EDITION just ready—get it now. Cornish Piano in oak, walnut, rosewood and mahogany, actual colors shown—the most costly and advising material.

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The seeming mysterious force which was originated into a science by Prof. H. C. Murphy, President of the American Institute of Science, and was named by him

MODERN  
MAGNETISM

and now known throughout the entire world as MAGNETIC HEALING, gives its students the power to control the body and mind of others; also the power to dispel disease as if by magic. It is the grandest pain reliever known to man; it is the only sure road to success financially, physically, socially and politically. With this wonderful power, health, fame and riches can be obtained; also the affections of those you love. You learn this wonderful science at home. The only education necessary is the knowledge to read. The mail course which is sent to all, makes you efficient in each branch of this grand science. Through the knowledge you gain you are able, without the use of drugs or the surgeon's knife, to

## Cure Yourself

as well as those about you. There are many people, both men and women, who shrink from the embarrassment of making their diseases public, and on this account go through the world suffering tortures and pain, but through this method you are able to HEAL YOURSELF IN THE PRIVACY OF YOUR OWN HOME, and in a few days you are in the sunshine of health to the surprise of your acquaintances. Many a modest woman suffering untold agony from diseases peculiar to her sex, has gone to a premature grave rather than subject herself to the embarrassment of an examination. The same can be said of men suffering from indiscretions that they were ashamed to confess. This grand method permits sufferers of both sexes to do away with this embarrassment, for by it they cure themselves without the assistance of anyone, of every disease and infirmity. THE BOOK OF HOPE, written by Prof. Murphy, in a plain and concise manner tells you exactly how you can gain this wonderful influence whereby you become proficient in curing disease and bad habits in yourself and in others; develop mental energy, gratify ambition and your every wish; also gives you the key to personal and social successes and teaches you the GRANDEST AND BEST PAYING PROFESSION OF THE AGE, as it is an acknowledged fact that there is no profession known to-day where independence can be so easily gained as through this grand profession. REMEMBER, this book costs you nothing, and it reveals wonderful secrets and makes the impossibilities of yesterday the realities of to-day.

**ABSOLUTELY FREE** Send your name and address and you will receive this grand book, which is beautifully illustrated, rich in all its details, on which neither expense or labor has been spared. It has numerous and elegant illustrations, and is a token which anyone may be proud of. Remember, it costs you nothing, and with it you receive the Magnetic Record, a 36-page illustrated magazine. Thousands who have become successful through this mail course, write similar letters to these:

Rev. S. P. Freyberger, Goshen, Ind., writes: "Your course will enable the student to practice the Art of Healing as soon as the course is completed. Having practiced Magnetic Healing for a year past, and having been very successful, I thank you most heartily for the knowledge received from a study of your mail course." Dr. E. Pritchard, Luling, Texas, writes: "I would not take \$500 for your course and do without it. I had catarrh of the head, and also constipation, of several years standing, and have cured myself of both diseases. I have also cured every person I have treated." The field of Magnetic Healing is as broad as the world itself. It brings wealth, health, happiness and influence.

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AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE, DEPT. J, NEVADA, MO.

## FREE TO EXPECTANT MOTHERS.

Dr. J. H. Dye has devoted his life to curing the ailments of women, and relieving especially the pains of child-birth. He has proved that it is not natural for women to suffer in giving birth to children, and will gladly send to all women a book which tells how to give birth to healthy children without pain. All women who wish to enjoy the blessing of motherhood will receive just the advice she needs to enable her to become a happy, healthy mother. This will cost absolutely nothing; your name and address sent to Dr. J. H. Dye, Lewis Block, Buffalo, N. Y., will bring it postpaid. Write at once.

## KIDNEY AND BLADDER CURE FREE.

Any sufferer from kidney and bladder diseases, Bright's disease, uric acid troubles and any diseases of the urinary tract, by sending address to Dr. J. A. Wilson, East Hampton, Conn., will receive by mail, absolutely free, this treatment of the one medicine that will permanently cure after everything else has failed.

## Mothers

Your children cured of Incontinence of urine. Sample Free. Dr. F. E. May, Box 304, Bloomington, Ill.

## PILES CURED. Box Free. L. F. WAGNER, B. O. Box 163, MILWAUKEE, WIS.

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and everything will be clear to you. These machines are strongly and beautifully made, handsomely nickel-plated. There is nothing to get out of order and they will last a life time. Being an entirely new invention we want to introduce quickly and therefore offer them as a premium FREE. We will send one as a sample securely packed in a box all charges paid, if 25c. is sent for a year's subscription or extension to SUNSHINE. We will then instruct you how to make money with them. Address

Is A Most Marvelous Invention. Its answers to your questions are quickly given. Its replies to Love, Business and Troubles are immediate and accurate. It is so arranged that it will forecast your future and tell you what you want to know if you but ask it. Being constructed on a strictly scientific principle the adjustable horn acts as a medium of speech.

You talk to it as though it was alive and its answers are revealed to you as though of the same breath. The action of your lips and your voice bring about startling and magical response. As an oracle or simple entertainer there is nothing like it. Your friends will all be delighted with you in its power to please as well as to inform you of all about matters that you have before been unable to have answered. It is a money maker. You can now tell fortunes for money or you can act as our agent and sell the Magic Fortune Teller to others. If you desire to know if Fortune or Misfortune is lurking about you, if you are to marry or not, if joy and pleasure is to be your lot through life, or if you will gain what you least expect, or anything else that now puzzles you, just direct your thought and conversation to this Magic Fortune Teller and the answers are revealed to you as though of the same breath. The action of your lips and your voice bring about startling and magical response. 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CONDUCTED BY REGULUS.



**T**HE New Moon this month occurs at about two minutes past five o'clock in the afternoon of the 15th day of July, when the 20th degree of the sign Sagittarius will be rising with Jupiter and Saturn just below the ascending horizon; the Sun, Moon, Mercury and Neptune will be in the west in the 7th house; Venus stands in the 8th; Mars has gone past the south meridian and is in the 9th house, while Herschel is above the eastern horizon in the 12th house.

The figure for this lunation again repeats the promises of general benevolence to the people which were given by its predecessors. Jupiter, the great benefic ruler of the ascending sign, being in the Ascendant sign, conjoined with Saturn dignified by sign and house, gives favorable indications of advantage to the masses. The teachings are that the people shall be quiet, successful and fortunate, healthy in body, and have joy, honor and peace. Conditions indicate reasonable rains, though Mars gives more than usual hot temperatures with some heavy thunder and lightning. The elevation of Mars points to some antagonism or strife over church matters and something of a warlike aspect over our commercial relations. We are to look for something like a train robbery or thieving in our south-western territories or near the national borders in that direction. One disagreeable feature of the figure is the threat of increased fire losses in the country in July and August. Underwriters and insurance officers should look well to their transactions and all be vigilant in this respect. The lunation falling so close to the 8th cusp cautions our great men against excesses of feast or sport or they will go suddenly from among us. Digestive and apoplectic troubles are likely to swell the list of those who go to their last home in this lunation. Indulgences in stimulants are much more likely than usual to be fatal in these passing weeks. We shall read of some scandalous development in the social world, probably in the nature of an elopement to foreign climes of some prominent in official life. The lunation falling in a watery sign on the 8th is a caution to all enjoying sports in and upon the water to be guarded against accident.

Mars on the 14th of the month enters the sign Libra, which is believed to rule China, and it will be reasonable to look for warlike activity among the Chinese or within the Chinese territory. Let us hope that it may not be any involvement of our nation in strife. Mars indicates some friction or unpleasantness in the Cabinet of the President or some loss or misfortune to one of its members.

## CELESTIAL CALENDAR FOR JULY 1901.

**JULY 1—Monday.** Give preference to the forenoon for the most important transactions of the day, especially such as are connected with banks and moneyed institutions, judges, lawyers, capitalists, and persons connected with churches; be sure and give no cause for thine employer's dissatisfaction in the afternoon. While the forenoon is generally benevolent it is not recommended for the inauguration of any of the great enterprises in life; the afternoon is likely to bring disappointment and unsatisfactory results in matters then begun.

**2—Tuesday.** Push matters vigorously after nine o'clock in the morning; have surgical operations performed, engage in chemical experiments and the prosecution of business dealings in cattle, metals, cutlery, and with persons in manufacturing enterprises and in mechanical trades.

**3—Wednesday.** Be not in haste to begin thy labors of this day if engaged in the literary, scientific, or artistic pursuits, but as the forenoon advances increase all thine efforts with the moments. Improve the last half of the day for the ingenious and mechanical trades and vocations; pursue scientific studies and engage the mind in matters of machinery or construction.

**4—Thursday. Independence Day.** Push business vigorously on this day; notwithstanding it is a holiday seek favors and deal with railway officials and superintendents in corporate bodies; the time is not propitious, however, for buying goods for trade nor for entering upon any of the great undertakings in life.

**5—Friday.** An unfavorable day for most undertakings and should be employed rather for routine work and such as is of least importance. Stomach, head, and kidney troubles become more acute in this passing time, to avoid which will require more than the ordinary care and prudent habits. Persons born about the 4th of January or April, or the 9th of July or 17th of October, of past years should heed our warning for care as to diet and habits. Married ladies born on these days will need to be circumspect in deportment and exercise more than ordinary patience and forbearance with their husbands; and to some, at best, will come quarrels, disagreements, separation and even divorce or unusual misfortunes to or through their married partners and near and dear relatives in the coming weeks. Males born at such times should see to it that business ruptures and changes do not come from acts of theirs and should not at this time begin important undertakings but be satisfied with their present lot rather than seek now to improve it by new ventures.

**6—Saturday.** Arise early and push vigorously thy several pursuits; use the forenoon for buying goods for trade, seeking money accommodations and dealings with lawyers, clothiers and woolen merchants; do not expect favor from large corporations in business, nor from national, state or municipal authorities; the time is not favorable for any matrimonial engagement especially for those of the gentle sex born about the 8th of March, 6th of June or September or the 9th of December, of past years.

**7—Sunday.** Excellent for mental efforts and religious zeal, though unless caution is exercised there will be observed too strong an inclination for aggressive utterances and disputes; let all have patience and be moderate in word and action under any species of excitement, especially in the noon and afternoon hours.

**8—Monday.** Those who speculate with their money on this day need not be surprised if disappointment comes; and general conditions bid thee pause before engaging in any matter of importance; avoid business dealings with banks and moneyed men, give thy landlord a wide berth and all matters pertaining to houses or lands are best avoided; bad stomach and kidney troubles and apoplectic annoyances are quickened at this time. Persons suffering from digestive troubles in this year will be wise during July to favor themselves in all the ways they can, especially by regular and prudent diet and temperate gratifications of appetite.

**9—Tuesday.** Great circumspection is advised in this undertaking of this day; beware of speculations; do not buy goods in commerce nor expect favorable results from mental efforts; have particular care in all matters of literary character and be prudent and watchful in the use of the pen. Stress is again laid upon the suggestions given for the 5th instant to persons born about the days there noted.

**10—Wednesday.** This day is excellent for all general business, though the polite arts and elegant pursuits are not favored in the early part of the day; purchase goods for trade and deal with banks and the wealthy classes in the forenoon; during the afternoon give thine energies to business concerned with houses and lands; deal in such commodities as coal, iron, petroleum, wood, lumber, lead, wool and grain, and with discretion in

mining and railroad stocks; make contracts for building and have transactions with persons generally in fiduciary capacities.

**11—Thursday.** Begin this day early and continue thine efforts of yesterday with increased vigor; let literary productions be launched during the forenoon hours and thou mayst have good assurance of success proportionate of course, with their quality; do important correspondence and appeal to the mind for forwarding thy ventures.

**12—Friday.** A good day for general business; let all engaged in the polite and elegant occupations specially improve the middle hours of this day; social and musical entertainments are encouraged for the afternoon and evening.

**13—Saturday.** Peculiarly favorable for commercial engagements; the mind will be active and the business judgment unusually acute; choose the time for dealing with clerks, accountants, teachers, mathematicians and the scientific classes generally.

**14—Sunday.** An unfavorable Sabbath day; mental productions are likely to be illogical and unsatisfactory, the utterances rash and imprudent, unless moderation and care is exercised; some bad fires are likely in the very early morning.

**15—Monday.** Engage in literary and scientific pursuits of magnitude during this day; commercial men should take advantage of prevailing benevolent conditions, make contracts, hire help and push all general business to the utmost.

**16—Tuesday.** Employ every moment of this day for forwarding thy business ventures especially if concerned with manufactures, chemicals, drugs, or machinery; try chemical experiments and prosecute dealings in cattle, metals, cutlery, or explosives, also with those in the mechanical trades.

**17—Wednesday.** Give preference to the forenoon of this day for urging the elegant pursuits; deal in fancy goods, dress materials, jewelry, and all articles of apparel or adornment; and expect pleasures and success in dramatic and musical entertainments; do not be over generous in the afternoon in dispensing thy worldly means; being careful also about jumping too hastily to conclusions as to values of goods to be purchased; keep the temper.

**18—Thursday.** Give preference to the middle hours of this day for the most important ventures; buy sparingly of goods for trade; deal with persons engaged in banking institutions and with judges, clergymen, woolen manufacturers and clothiers; let the musician and artist urge their several callings.

**19—Friday.** A good day for making contracts concerning houses, lands, agricultural and mining productions and all kinds of dealings with farmers, builders, miners, contractors, and all engaged in the dirty occupations, and the laboring classes generally; use the afternoon for literary and scientific work and for dealing with teachers, printers, philosophers, mathematicians, secretaries, accountants, architects, orators and all ingenious and clever persons; seek no favor from officers of railways nor from any corporate body or institution.

**20—Saturday.** Apply for favor from persons in authority but have great care as the night approaches, avoiding strife and controversy and being watchful against fires.

**21—Sunday.** An unfavorable Sabbath day contributing to aggressive and inharmonious discourse and promotion of excitement and controversy; see that all precautions are observed here against fire as we are now passing through conditions when some serious losses are likely to result from the fiery element; beware of hasty conclusions and see that the tongue does not involve thee unpleasantly.

**22—Monday.** Improve this day to the utmost, giving preference if any, to the prosecution of business pertaining to the fine arts and the polite accomplishments; the day is peculiarly propitious for dealings in holiday wares, decorative goods and for the enjoyment of social and dramatic entertainments; make contracts of consequence in the forenoon when dealings with persons in the literary pursuits are likely to prove unsatisfactory and unprofitable.

**23—Tuesday.** Seek no favor from thine employer in the morning but as the day advances give every energy to the prosecution of business, due caution being exercised against haste and precipitancy in thine affairs; buy goods for trade; deal with persons of wealth, make money collections, adjust accounts and press all honorable business.

**24—Wednesday.** One of the excellent days of the month upon which it would be well to begin affairs of importance concerning houses and lands and to deal with farmers, miners, plumbers, nurserymen, and cattle raisers; take the forenoon hours for beginning buildings and otherwise inaugurating works of construction; sign deeds; transact business with trustees, administrators, executors and probate officers; those in the literary callings are favored.

**25—Thursday.** The day is poor for musical and artistic matters and discourages the purchase of dress or fancy goods or decoration; the time is unfavorable for any matrimonial engagement and is unpromising for social entertainment; important matters are best postponed.

**26—Friday.** As the Sun leaves the eastern horizon let all honorable pursuits be pushed with constantly increasing vigor; the forenoon specially encourages mechanical and chemical pursuits, also all manufacturing enterprises; begin important ventures of this nature, institute legal proceedings, practice surgery, buy machinery, employ mechanics and deal in hardware, electrical and mechanical goods and with cutlery, tanners, furs and all workers in metals or glass; the late afternoon and evening discourages dealings with very aged persons or officers of public organizations or great business corporations.

**27—Saturday.** An indifferent day; the afternoon hours are the most favorable.

**28—Sunday.** An especially fortunate Sabbath day abounding in benevolence and religious fervor; efforts of the clergy will be attended with more than ordinary success and church matters and officials are particularly favored.

**29—Monday.** A very evil day in which particularly matters of much importance are best deferred; see that the tongue or pen do no violence to good judgment on this day and above all make no purchases of stocks or in speculations of any kind; moral deformities are excited and crimes are increased and disclosed; quarrels, bad accidents and sudden deaths are induced; beware of litigations and contentions at this time for the day is one of strife and discord; use the pen very cautiously and be very careful if compelled to be about machinery or in the use of fire-arms or explosives; these suggestions are particularly appropriate for persons born about the 3rd of January, April, July or October of past years.

**30—Tuesday.** Do not travel or change residence on this day; public officials and railway employees will be short of patience in the late hours.

**31—Wednesday.** Let there be no unpleasantness with thine employer or the superior in authority in the morning, but in other respects the day contributes energy and enterprise and invites activity in all the walks of life, especially for the machinist, engineer, mechanic, traveler, military man, and dealer in metals and cattle; in the afternoon thou canst with both profit and pleasure deal with eccentric or cranky men, consult ancient authorities and have dealings concerning rare and antique articles.

Orange Lily cures Leucorrhoea, Ulceration, Displacement, Painful Periods. For a free trial address, Mrs. H. C. Fretter, Detroit, Mich.

The first theatrical performance in Boston was given in 1750.

## MAHIN GROWING RAPIDLY.

The 1901 Advertiser's Hand Book of the Mahin Advertising Company, of Chicago, is a compact book of 48 pages. It lists the leading publications of general circulation and also the daily newspapers of America and gives the size of page, advertising rates and discounts, politics or religious, date of issue and much other valuable information of every day use to the general advertiser. The Mahin Agency declines advertisements of questionable character. Its business increased over 50 per cent. the last year, necessitating branch offices at St. Louis, Kansas City and New York. A copy of the Hand Book and seven cards containing excellent maxims for displaying in every office or factory will be mailed upon receipt of 50 cents. Address Mahin Advertising Company, 201 Monroe St., Chicago.

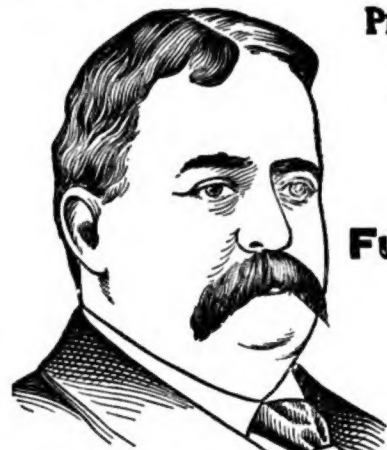


## RUPTURE CURED!

WORN NIGHT AND DAY. Patented improvements, comfort, safety. New full illustrated Book telling all about Rupture sent FREE, securely sealed. G. V. HOUSE MFG. CO., 744 Broadway, New York.

Please mention COMFORT when you write.

## PERFECT MANHOOD



Prof. Jules Laborde's Marvelous French Preparation of "CALTHOS" For Lost Manhood.

Full 5 Days' Treatment SENT FREE By Sealed Mail.

NO C. O. D. OR DEPOSIT SCHEME.

Every person who is a sufferer from nervous diseases should write the Von Mohl Co., Cincinnati, Ohio, at once, and accept their offer of a five days' trial treatment free of charge. This is no C. O. D. or DEPOSIT scheme but a liberal proposition made to unfortunate sufferers by this long-established concern, which is the largest importer of specifics for nervous and sexual diseases in the world.

The Von Mohl Co. has the sole American rights for Prof. Laborde's French preparation of "Calthos," the only remedy known to advanced medical science that will positively cure nervous debility. This remedy has for years been used as a specific in the French and German armies, and since its introduction into the United States has cured many thousands of sufferers, and the remarkable success of the remedy in Europe has been repeated in this country.

In order to place this wonderful treatment in the hands of every person who suffers the mental and physical anguish of sexual weakness, The Von Mohl Co., has decided to send a free trial treatment to all who write at once. The remedy is sent by mail in a plain package, and there is no publicity in receiving it or taking it. Accompanying the medicine there is a full treatise in plain language for you to read. Take the medicine privately with perfect safety, and a sure cure is guaranteed.

Lost vitality creeps upon men unawares. Do not deceive yourself or remain in ignorance while you are being dragged down by this insidious disease. No matter what the cause may be, whether early abuses, excesses or overwork and business cares, the results are the same—premature loss of strength and memory, emissions, impotency, varicocele and

shrunk parts. This specific remedy will cure you at any stage before epilepsy results, with ensuing consumption and insanity. "Calthos" goes directly to the seat of the trouble, no matter how long standing, and the patient feels the benefit of the first day's treatment. In five days the medicines sent free will make you feel like a new man.

The Von Mohl Co. often receives the most astonishing testimonials from persons who have taken only five days' treatment. They have thousands of testimonials from those who have been permanently cured after having been given up by doctors, misled and ruined in health by disreputable medical schemers, and when they had given up their last hope for health and happiness. No sensible person will permit his name to be used for a testimonial as an admission that he had any of the diseases for which the preparation of "Calthos" is a specific cure. Some irresponsible advertisers are using "made-up" testimonials, but the Von Mohl Co. invariably declines to make public the names or correspondence of any patients who have been cured by "Calthos."

Five days' treatment will be placed in your hands free of cost, and you are earnestly urged for your own sake to send for it without delay. Write to day and send your address. It is not necessary to give embarrassing details of your symptoms. The book accompanying the five days' treatment will enable you to take the medicine in private and treat yourself successfully at home. It costs nothing to try this remedy. It may cost you a great deal more to let this offer go by. Write today. Address THE VON MOHL CO., 805 B. CINCINNATI, OHIO. Largest Importers of Standard Preparations in the United States.



## BICYCLES AT FACTORY COST.

IT IS NOT A QUESTION OF PROFIT but our desire to place a dozen lively advertisements for our general line of merchandise into every town of the United States, that makes us sell the greatest high-grade line of Bicycles at the regular direct factory cost. WE SHIP C. O. D. SUBJECT TO 10 DAYS' TRIAL. 1901 Italy Special, fully equipped, \$10.75. 1901 Arlington Flyer, " \$12.75. 1901 Arlington Flash, " \$15.75. Fitted with single or double tube Union Tires. Kelly adjustable handle bar, etc. 1901 OAKWOOD (HIGHEST GRADE), Three-crown (Columbia Box), nickel head, nickel joints, fitted throughout with highest grade equipment—the prettiest wheel in America. We have no agents. Write for catalogue and ask for our Special Offer—containing complete bicycle outfit, wheels complete, gas lamp, cyclometer, bell, etc., etc. \$13.95. CASH BUYERS' UNION, (Inc.) Dept. 5 Q, 162 W. Van Buren St., CHICAGO.

## YOUR FORTUNE

In life clearly revealed. I have astonished thousands with my wonderfully correct Horoscope of their life, past, present and future. I currently treat your love affairs, domestic troubles, business and financial success. Send your date of birth and 20 postage for my great REVIEW ON ASTROLOGY. My own testimonials and a personal, typewritten, trial horoscope of your life, all FREE. E. J. B. FROST, 100 E. 10th St., Binghamton, N. Y.

**MAN WANTED** in each county. Salary, horse and wagon, if competent, to sell teas, coffees, spices, etc. direct to housewives and stores, with or without valuable premiums to customers. West India Importing Co., 109 Greenwich Street, New York City.

## WHISKEY

Receipt to make it without a still 10c. Erie Novelty Co., Horrs, Ohio.



## LEARN TO HYPNOTIZE!

Control whom you wish. Make others love and obey you. Cures diseases. Makes fun by the hour. New and instantaneous method. Quick as a flash. YOU can learn it. Success sure. Mammoth illustrated LESSON and full particulars FREE! Send address at once. Prof. L. A. Harraden, JACKSON, MICH.

## PILES

Absolutely cured. Never to return. A Balm to Sufferers. Acts like Magic. Trial box MAILED FREE. Address, Dr. E. M. Botol, Box 978, Augusta, Me.

## CUTS STEEL AS A DIAMOND CUTS GLASS.

Every Housekeeper Needs One. The Old Reliable "Star Sharpening Rifle" sharpens all Table Cutlery, Scythes, Mowing Machines, Corn Cutters, Grain Cradles, Brush Hooks, Knives, etc. Shoemakers and Butchers use them. 200,000 now in use. They are practical and durable, do perfect work. The Old Reliable "Star Sharpening Rifle" is of usual style and size, 14-12 inches long, 13-8 inches wide, durable and strong, cuts steel as a diamond cuts glass, and sells fast with agents all over the country. Great profits; sample sent free if you enclose 18c. for a six months' subscription to SUNSHINE. Will send one dozen by express for \$1.25, easily retails for 25c. each, more than one hundred per cent. profit. Address COMFORT, Augusta, Maine.



## EAGLE CLAW,

A WONDERFUL INVENTION. BEST TRAP IN THE WORLD FOR CATCHING FISH, ANIMALS, AND ALL MANNER OF GAME.

A wonderful and most ingenious device. It is easy to set, suited to any bait, can be used anywhere, nothing CAN ESCAPE UNTIL RELEASED. Every fish, muskrat, or squirrel which bites at the bait is surely caught. Perfectly safe for children, will not rust. One bait will catch from 20 to 30 fish. Will spring in any position; in short, it is a grand triumph over the unsafe and uncertain common fish-hook. Highly recommended by the Tribune, World, Press, and the Turf, Field and Farm. The Ohio Farmer says: "The Eagle Claw is a very ingenious article. The best device for catching fish and game we ever saw. Safe, sure and convenient." No. 1 is for all ordinary fishing, the ladies' favorite. No. 2 is for general use, both large and small fish and game. We have sold thousands, and they have all given splendid satisfaction.

**PREMIUM OFFER.** We will send a No. 1, Eagle Claw Hook and our splendid monthly paper six months on trial for only 30 cents; or, send us 50 cents and we will send the No. 2, Eagle Claw-hook and our paper on trial six months. Price, per dozen, by express, No. 1, \$2.25; No. 2, \$3.50. Address LANE & CO., Augusta, Maine.





# LESS Than Your DEALER PAYS

## Home Scales



Made especially for home uses, to weigh what you buy and sell. On any farm such a scale is a necessity.

It weighs anything from 4 ounces up to 240 pounds. The beam is polished brass; hardened steel bearings; large tin scoop; full sized platform. All finely finished, painted and decorated. Warranted durable, accurate and reliable.

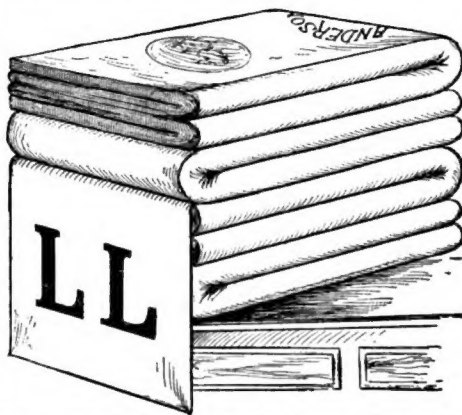
The scale costs the maker almost the price we ask. We box it and ship it and guarantee safe delivery. Shipping weight, 40 pounds. Freight rates quoted to any station on request. Order No. C 05. Price **\$1.75**

## Best Quality LL Sheetings

**4  $\frac{1}{4}$  cts.**  
per  
Yard

These sheetings are the Anderson, Henderson and Hightown brands—the very best sheetings on the market. Unbleached LL

sheetings, weighing four yards to the pound, counting full 56 x 60 threads to the inch. The cleanest, best woven sheetings that are made. We could buy many brands of LL sheetings for less, but your dealer pays fully as much as we charge you for these. Our price, for any quantity, **4  $\frac{1}{4}$  cents** per yard. Full pieces run about 55 yards. Order No. Z 06.



## Apron Gingham

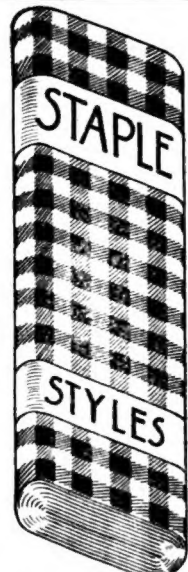
THE COSTLIEST BRANDS

**4  $\frac{7}{8}$  cts.**  
per  
Yard

These Checked Apron Gingham are Amoskeag and Lancaster makes. Those are the best brands known. They cost your dealer more than any other brands on the market. Dealers sell them for 7, 8 and even 10 cents per yard. Most dealers pay for them more than we charge you.

Your choice of these styles: Blue and white, brown and white, or green and white pin checks, small, medium or large, even or broken checks. Black and white pin checks, or small, medium or large even checks. Pink and white, small or medium, even checks or broken checks.

Our price for any quantity, **4  $\frac{7}{8}$  cents** per yard. Full pieces run about 50 yards. Order No. Z 07.



## MONTGOMERY WARD & CO., Michigan Avenue and Madison St., CHICAGO

**P. S.** We sell 70,000 articles at wholesale prices, by mail, as we do this. They include everything that you wear or use, and about everything you eat. Our catalogue contains over 1,000 pages, 17,000 pictures and 70,000 of the lowest prices ever quoted. It weighs almost four pounds, and the postage alone costs 30 cents. We will send you this catalogue for 15 cents in stamps to pay half the postage, or we will ship one free when we fill your order if you request us to do so. It will save any ordinary family at least \$100 per year. This is the largest mail order house in the world. Established 1872. We have 25 acres of floor space covered with merchandise; 2,000 employes, and two million customers. We quote lower prices, for values given, than any other house in existence.

### Our Vice President.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



**T**HEODORE Roosevelt, whose name has long been so familiar to all citizens of the United States that even the smallest boys tell of his deeds, and whose progress up Pennsylvania Avenue in the inaugural parade from the Capitol to the White House was one continuous ovation from the excited multitudes who crowded the pavements, filled the balconies and doorsteps and even fringed the roofs of the buildings all along the way, is a striking example of rare good judgment, combined with an unusual ability to see the end from the beginning, a strong will and a forceful character. Rich, highly educated and exceedingly popular, he has filled many offices of many kinds within the past twenty years, and although it has frequently seemed to his friends that he was stepping backward instead of forward in his various moves on the chessboard of life, it has invariably proved that his move was a good one for all concerned. He has always shown himself the right man in the right place, and ever, when he has resigned one office in order that he might accept another he has left behind him multitudes of regrets for his vanished influence, assistance and personality. Wherever he goes he makes his presence felt, and invariably for the right. Even in the few days during which, after his inauguration as Vice President, he served as President of the Senate, he made it apparent that order is to reign in that body while he is at its head, and that applause from the galleries will not be tolerated there.

It is not the purpose of this article to give a resume of the past life of our popular Vice President, for there are few readers of this magazine who are not already familiar with his movements for the past fifteen or twenty years, but rather to give a slight pen picture of what his life will be for the coming four years.

Theodore Roosevelt is now forty-two years of age, and, with one exception, that of John C. Breckenridge, who was thirty-six years old when he became Vice President, he is the youngest man ever called to fill that office. Generally speaking, the Vice Presidency is a very inactive position, and its occupant is seldom heard from in any way. Even as head of the Senate he has no vote unless it is rendered necessary to avoid a tie. He can make no speeches, and simply "sits up aloft" and wields the gavel. But it is impossible to conceive of Theodore Roosevelt as a passive member of any organization, and even though deprived by his office of the privilege of speaking on the floor of the Senate, "it goes without saying" that he will assuredly find a way to make his presence and his character felt in that body.

He has leased a home for himself and his family during his term of office in Washington,

the furnished house of Bellamy Storer, Minister to Spain, for which he is to pay an annual rental of six thousand dollars. As his salary as Vice President is but eight thousand it will readily be perceived that he must be possessed of a large income aside from his salary. In passing it may be mentioned that in resigning the Governorship of New York to accept the Vice Presidency he relinquished a salary of ten thousand dollars and a large and luxuriously appointed Governor's mansion at Albany.

The Storer mansion is built of buff brick, has three stories and a basement, and contains about twenty rooms. It is luxuriously furnished and contains many souvenirs of Mr. Storer's travels abroad, rare specimens of pottery and porcelain, valuable curios and priceless rugs and pictures. Mr. Roosevelt brings with him nothing of household furnishing except his large and valuable library. Uncle Sam furnishes him nothing, however, but his salary—not even a carriage—excepting, of course, the magnificently furnished room at the Capitol which is always at the disposal of the Vice President. This is the most luxuriously appointed office to be seen in Washington, not even excepting that of the President himself.

Its floor is covered by two gorgeous royal Sennah rugs, which each cost the Government two hundred and twelve dollars. The two windows of the room are draped with curtains of Brussels point lace for which the Senate gave three hundred dollars. A six hundred dollar grandfather clock in a tall mahogany case tells him the time; the sofa cost one hundred and thirty dollars and the portieres of silk velvet at the doorway are valued at one hundred and seventy dollars; but this room is all the perquisite which Uncle Sam thinks it necessary to bestow upon his Vice President.

To be sure, his duties are not onerous. Fully two-thirds of every year will be vacation to him, as his presence is only required in Washington while Congress is in session, and even then he need only spend about two hours a day in the Senate chamber. He must be there to open each day's session, must remain while the roll is opened, must personally preside while bills are being introduced, reports are being read and petitions and memorials are being presented; but at the end of the "morning hour", or about two P. M., he may hand his gavel to a senator and betake himself wherever he may choose, until the time for adjournment for that day draws near.

In the social scale the Vice President now ranks next to the President, and his wife stands next to Mrs. McKinley in the receiving party at all White House receptions. Formerly the members of the Cabinet and even some diplomats were allowed to take precedence of the Vice President and his wife at White House social functions, but Mr. McKinley, when he first entered the White House as its head, ruled that the place of the Vice President was next himself, and so it has remained, and rightly so, ever since.

Mrs. Roosevelt will also have her weekly receptions during the winters. She is a cultivated, refined woman with a charming personality of her own, a strong character and an intense interest in all that affects her husband. She is an entertainer of rare tact and her receptions are affairs to be remembered. She is not a "club woman", but she is interested in all that tends to uplift and broaden women's

lives, and in her quiet way does much effective work along philanthropic lines. She is domestic in her tastes, and her home life among her children is charming. Of the children there are six: Alice, aged sixteen, is the daughter of Mr. Roosevelt's first wife; Teddy, thirteen, is the image of his father, and, like him, wears glasses; Kermit is eleven, Ethel nine, Archibald six, and the baby, Quentin, three. It is a happy, rollicking, wide-awake, interesting family, and one which Washington is not only glad but proud to welcome within its boundaries.

### Helen Keller's Radcliffe Examination.

WRITTEN FOR COMFORT.



**F**ROM time to time COMFORT has had in its pages accounts of Helen Keller, the deaf, dumb and blind girl, and her wonderful accomplishments in the way of acquiring knowledge. It is about fourteen months since she, after incredible labor and indomitable perseverance, succeeded in creditably passing the examination for Radcliffe college.

She had, two years before, successfully passed a preliminary examination, and for this entrance one there remained for her to demonstrate her knowledge in geometry, algebra, elementary Greek, advanced Greek and advanced Latin. Miss Sullivan, her constant companion, friend, teacher and interpreter, understands neither Greek, Latin nor the higher mathematics, and so could not give her the slightest assistance in this examination. She had for a tutor while preparing for her college course, Mr. Merton S. Keith, under whose guidance she finished the work of preparation in three years instead of the four which were thought by her friends to be necessary for the purpose. She was resolved that the examination should be in all respects as rigidly conducted as if she were in possession of all her faculties, but for a time it seemed as if this would be impossible, owing to the difficulty in finding some one to copy the questions for her use in the Braille characters commonly used by the blind. At the last moment a gentleman was found who had the requisite knowledge both of the subjects treated of in the examination and of the Braille system of writing. He wrote out the examination questions for her, but when they were put into her hands on the morning of the examination it was discovered that the gentleman had used the American Braille system of writing, while Helen Keller's education has been entirely carried on by the English system, in which nearly all the books

which have been put into Braille are printed, and she had only a very slight acquaintance with the American system. However, it was too late to find another writer, even had it been possible to find one having also the required knowledge of Greek, Latin and higher mathematics, so Miss Keller set herself bravely to work to pick out [or feel out] the questions in the unfamiliar writing, and to write out her answers on her typewriter. To add to her difficulties, her Swiss watch, made expressly for the blind, had been accidentally left at home, and she had no means of knowing, as she went steadily on from question to question, how the time was passing, or how much remained of that allotted to each subject. Utterly alone, in darkness and silence, she worked patiently on, doing her best in spite of all the handicaps which hedged her about, and came triumphantly out at the end of the two days' examination, successful in every point, and within a few days received her certificate of admission to Radcliffe College, signed by its Dean.

Think of it, you girls who quail at the slightest difficulties which beset your way, think what this girl struggles with and overcomes every day of her life! Think of the awful prison in which she is shut up, whose walls can only be pierced by her own efforts. Her heroic courage, her indomitable perseverance, and her iron resolution to make the most and the best of what powers she has, call for our strongest admiration and respect, and teach us who have the free use of all our faculties never to say, when a difficulty confronts us, "I cannot do it."

When Miss Keller had completed her examinations for Radcliffe and had won admission there it was finally decided that it was not best for her to enter at once upon her college life, and so, for the past year or more she has lived quietly at Wrentham, Mass., in a beautiful country house, where with the aid of her devoted friend and companion, Miss Sullivan, and of a private tutor, she has read and studied diligently. Her greatest love is for English literature, and to the study of this she has devoted much of her time.

Notwithstanding her great love for study Helen Keller is a thorough girl as well as student, very fond of girlish pleasures and sports, and lessons are frequently interspersed by bicycle trips, horseback rides and carriage drives, rows and sails on the lake and rambles in fields and woods; during all of which Miss Sullivan keeps her constantly alive to the scenes about her by talking into her hand of everything to be seen or heard as they pass along.

At the time of this writing it is not yet decided whether Miss Keller will enter college the coming fall or will continue for another year her quiet life at Wrentham.

How Helen Keller will pass through the four years of her college course; how she will acquaint herself with the matter of the lectures given to her classmates, and which constitute a large part of the instruction given to them; how she will gain a knowledge of the text books which she must use, none of which are printed in the Braille writing, remains to be seen. But Helen Keller knows no such word as fail, and we may be sure that she will conquer all obstacles in her path, however great they may be, and go steadily on to the accomplishment of the work which she has set for herself.